

# Historic Context Study: World War II and Cold War Era Buildings and Structures

Fort McClellan,  
Calhoun County, Alabama

FINAL REPORT

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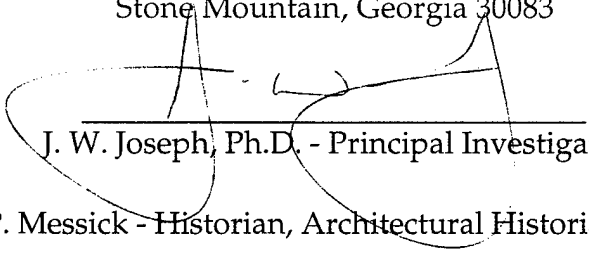
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## Executive Summary

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This historic architecture context study for Fort McClellan, Calhoun County, Alabama, includes permanent World War II (1940-1945) and Cold War era (1946-1989) buildings and structures within the main post area. The purpose of this study is to help fulfill the responsibilities of Fort McClellan under Section 106 and Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act. Properties constructed at Fort McClellan prior to 1940 have already been evaluated in previous surveys. The current study has been prepared to provide a basis for the evaluation of eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) for structures completed since 1940.

Properties associated with World War II and Cold War contexts at Fort McClellan are treated as two distinct categories. National Register evaluation criteria are applied differently to these properties depending on whether or not their major significance arises from events occurring in the last 50 years. Approximately 870 buildings and structures were constructed at Fort McClellan during the Cold War era. Most are housing, administrative, or operations buildings which are explicitly excluded from consideration as Cold War eligible resources. One property (a district consisting of portions of the Chemical Decontamination Training Facility) appears to meet the criteria for "exceptional significance," as defined by the National Register and U. S. Army guidelines, and this district is recommended eligible for the NRHP.

There are also a number of older (over 50 years of age) resources that were previously determined eligible as part of either the Post Headquarters District, the Industrial District, or the Ammunition Storage District. The period of significance for those districts extends through World War II, although only a few of their contributing properties were constructed between 1940 and 1945. Most other World War II era properties at Fort McClellan were temporary construction (approximately 180), and these are not subject to evaluation by this study because they are included in a previous programmatic agreement. Fort McClellan also has eight World War II era permanent buildings, plus 15 bridges and a German-Italian POW cemetery, that are located outside the districts. Of those, one small vehicle bridge and the cemetery were recommended as eligible for the NRHP.



## Acknowledgments

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Many individuals and organizations contributed to this project, and we appreciate their assistance. Our coordinators at Fort McClellan were Tim Rice, Gordon Horsley and Luther Owen in the Directorate of the Environment (DOE). Mr. Owen shared his expertise and knowledge of the facilities and arranged for tours of some of the critical buildings. John May gave a tour of Building 3192, and Stephen Cook gave a tour of the Chemical Defense Training Facility (CDTF). Joan McKinney of the Public Affairs Office gave us valuable information on local sources. Susie Prater and Ron Burke of the Directorate of Engineering and Housing (DEH) were extremely helpful in retrieving numerous real property files. Individuals in the various Fort McClellan museums who were interviewed or consulted included Jerry Burgess, Sandy Wolf and others at the Women's Army Corps (WAC) Museum, George Murray of the Chemical Corps Museum, and Scott Norton of the Military Police (MP) Museum. Historians at the MP School (Dr. Roger Zeimat) and the Chemical School (Dr. Burton Wright) were also consulted, and we appreciate their input. Various librarians at the Chemical School library assisted in retrieving information. We are also grateful to the Anniston-Calhoun County Public Library for providing access to their files on Fort McClellan. The author would also like to thank her mother, Edith Messick, for helping translate portions of the German POW newspaper, "Die Oase." Finally, we would like to thank Dottie Gibbens of the Mobile Corps of Engineers for her help and guidance throughout the project.

Denise P. Messick  
Author and Historian

# Table of Contents

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Executive Summary .....	i
Acknowledgments .....	ii
I. Introduction .....	1
Project Location and Background.....	1
Previous Studies.....	4
II. Methods and Evaluation Criteria .....	7
Research Design and National Register Criteria .....	7
Methods .....	11
III. World War II Overview and Evaluation.....	14
Synopsis of Pre-World War II History.....	14
World War II Historic Context.....	18
Evaluation of World War II Permanent Buildings and Structures.....	37
Post Headquarters District.....	39
Industrial District .....	40
Ammunition Storage District.....	40
Buildings 130, 335, 336, and 339.....	41
Building 270 .....	41
Building 1031 .....	42
Building 1122 .....	42

Building 1919 .....	46
Building 1920 .....	46
Building 2020 .....	47
Building 2090 .....	47
Building 2091 .....	52
German-Italian Memorial Cemetery.....	52
World War II Bridges.....	54
IV. Cold War Overview and Evaluation.....	64
Cold War Era Historic Context .....	64
The WAC Center and School.....	69
U. S. Army Chemical Center and School.....	77
U. S. Army Military Police School .....	86
Evaluation of Cold War Era Buildings and Structures.....	89
The WAC Center and School.....	91
U. S. Army Chemical Center and School.....	93
CDTF .....	94
Building 3192 .....	100
U. S. Army Military Police School .....	105
V. Conclusions .....	106
VI. References Cited.....	111

## List of Figures

---

1. Location Map.....	2
2. Eligible National Register Districts (USGS Map).....	6
3. Master Plan, 1946.....	21
4. Extant Examples of W. W. II Temporary Construction.....	24
5. Detail from 1942-43 Panoramic Photograph.....	25
6. Historic Photograph of Hospital Area .....	26
7. Historic Photograph of Monteith Amphitheater.....	27
8. Cover of POW Camp Newspaper.....	33
9. Examples of POW Murals in Building 51.....	34
10. Historic Views of POW Cemetery and Greenhouse.....	35
11. Building 270, Photo and Plan .....	43
12. Building 1031, Photo and Plan .....	44
13. Building 1122, Photo and Plan .....	45
14. Building 1919, Photo and Plan .....	48
15. Building 1920, Photo and Plan .....	49
16. Building 2020, Photo and Plan .....	50
17. Views of Buildings 2090 and 2091 .....	51
18. German Italian Memorial Cemetery.....	56
19. Photos of Bridges 4302, 4303, 4305.....	57

20. Photos of Bridges 4306, 4314, 4318.....	58
21. Photos of Bridges 4319, 4331, 4342.....	59
22. Photos of Bridges 4352, 4363, 4702.....	60
23. Photos of Bridges 4703, 4705, 4406.....	61
24. Location Map of W. W. II Bridges.....	62
25. Location Map of Miscellaneous W. W. II and Cold War Properties .....	63
26. Map of WAC Center and School, c. 1958.....	71
27. Photo of WAC Trainees, 1954.....	72
28. Photos of Buildings in Former WAC Area.....	73
29. Photos of Buildings in Former WAC Area.....	74
30. Map of Chemical Corps Training Command Area, c. 1960.....	81
31. Map of Chemical Corps Training Area, c. 1970 .....	82
32. Plan of Building 3181, c. 1970 .....	83
33. Photos of Buildings in Former Chemical School (now MP Area).....	84
34. Diagram of CDTF Complex, c. 1987 .....	96
35. Plan of Main Training Building, CDTF, c. 1987.....	97
36. Photographs of CDTF.....	98
37. Photographs of CDTF.....	99
38. Schematic of Radiological Facilities, c. 1960s.....	102
39. 1959 Floor Plan of Building 3192 (former Hot Cell Building) .....	104
40. Photographs of Building 3192.....	104

## List of Tables

---

1. Major properties associated with the WAC Center and School.....	91
2. Major properties associated with the Chemical School, 1954-73.....	93
3. Major properties associated with the MP School.....	105
4. Permanent W. W. II era properties outside eligible districts .....	109
5. World War II properties inside eligible districts .....	110
6. Cold War era properties evaluated for exceptional significance.....	110

## Appendices

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- A. Draft National Register Nomination - Post Headquarters District
- B. Draft National Register Nomination - Industrial District
- C. Draft National Register Nomination - Ammunition Storage District
- D. Review letter from Alabama Historical Commission

# I. Introduction

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## Project Location and Background

New South Associates, as a subcontractor to Tetra Tech, Inc., has been retained by the Mobile District, U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, to prepare a historic architecture context study for Fort McClellan, Calhoun County, Alabama. The context is to include permanent World War II and Cold War era buildings and structures within the main post area. The purpose of this study is to help fulfill the responsibilities of Fort McClellan under Section 106 and Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act, and specifically to complete inventory for the purpose of Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) activities in late 1999 and beyond. Properties constructed at Fort McClellan prior to 1940 have already been evaluated in previous surveys. The current study has been prepared to provide a basis for the evaluation of eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places for structures completed since 1940.

Fort McClellan is situated on 45,680 acres on the west side of the Choccolocco Mountain Range in Calhoun County, Alabama, at the margin between the Piedmont and Ridge and Valley physiographic regions. Located nine miles north of U. S. Interstate Highway 20 on Alabama Highway 21, the former U.S. Army training post is also near the town of Anniston (Figure 1). The installation was most recently home to both the U. S. Army Chemical School and the Military Police Corps. Approximately 7,000 enlisted military police and chemical entry soldiers underwent training annually through the U.S. Army Training brigade. Additionally, the Military Police and Chemical Schools trained approximately 9,000 officers and non-commissioned officers each year through basic and advanced professional development courses. As the home of the Army Chemical Corps, Fort McClellan has been the site of the only known live agent chemical training facility in the world -- the Chemical Defense Training Facility (CDTF).

The U. S. Army Training Brigade was established in 1977 and included a Headquarters and Headquarters Company (HHC) and four battalions. The mission of the Training Brigade was to conduct initial entry training that produces chemical and military police soldiers qualified in basic and military occupational specialty skills. The

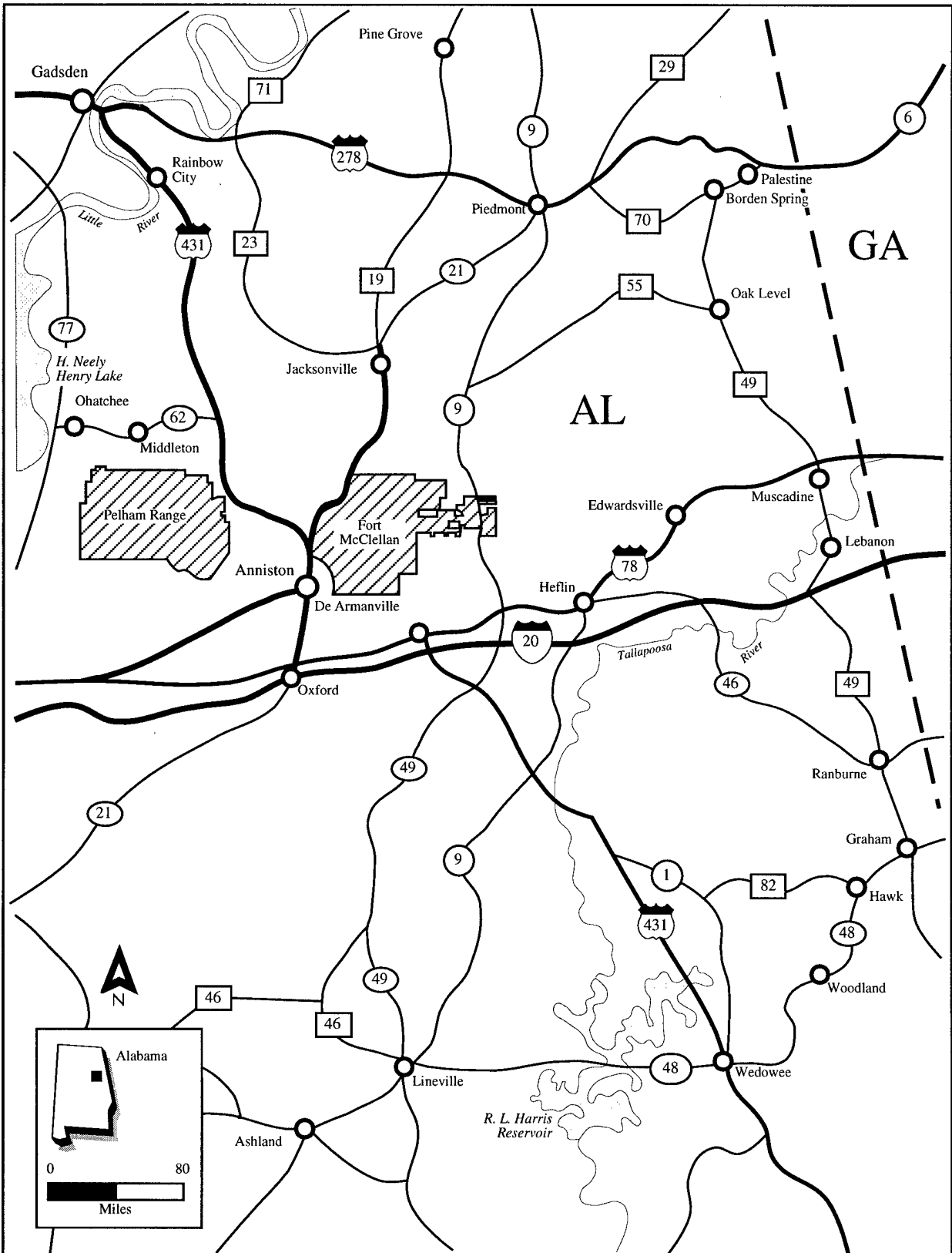


Figure 1  
Project Location Map



process began at the 39th Adjutant General Battalion where civilian enlistees were received and processed for assignment to one of three training battalions. Each of these units, the 82nd Chemical Battalion, the 787th Military Police Battalion and the 795th Military Police Battalion, consisted of an HHC and four companies with the combined capability of processing more than 7,000 chemical and military police soldiers annually.

Fort McClellan was also a major multi-service training center. Over 1,100 U. S. Marine military police underwent their advanced individual training at Fort McClellan, along with approximately 250 Marine Nuclear, Biological and Chemical (NBC) specialists. The Navy operated its Chemical, Biological and Radiological Defense and Disaster Preparedness schools in conjunction with the U. S. Army Chemical School. Navy personnel also attended the Military Police Investigations course at the U. S. Army Military Police School. The Air Force recently trained approximately 1,000 airmen annually at Civil Engineer Readiness School at Fort McClellan. Fort McClellan also served as a training facility for U. S. Army Reserve and National Guard units supporting an annual cycle of approximately 37,300 soldiers. In 1998 the installation supported a military population of 5,500 service members and their families, as well as 2,500 civilian workers and their families. (Statistics in the previous three paragraphs were taken from the Fort McClellan home page, updated 01/06/99).

Fort McClellan began as a National Guard camp in 1917, in response to the entry of the United States to World War I. Other than landscape layout and some roads, there are few visible physical remains from this era. Additional construction took place in the late 1920s and 1930s, and three National Register eligible districts contain excellent examples of these pre-World War II buildings and structures. The next phase of growth involved a massive effort to train and house troops for World War II. Since much of this construction was temporary in nature, few permanent buildings remain from World War II. The fort was placed on inactive status from 1947 through 1950. By 1951 the post was reactivated to function as the home for the Army Chemical Corps School. Later, the Women's Army Corps Center and School and the Military Police School were also moved to Fort McClellan.

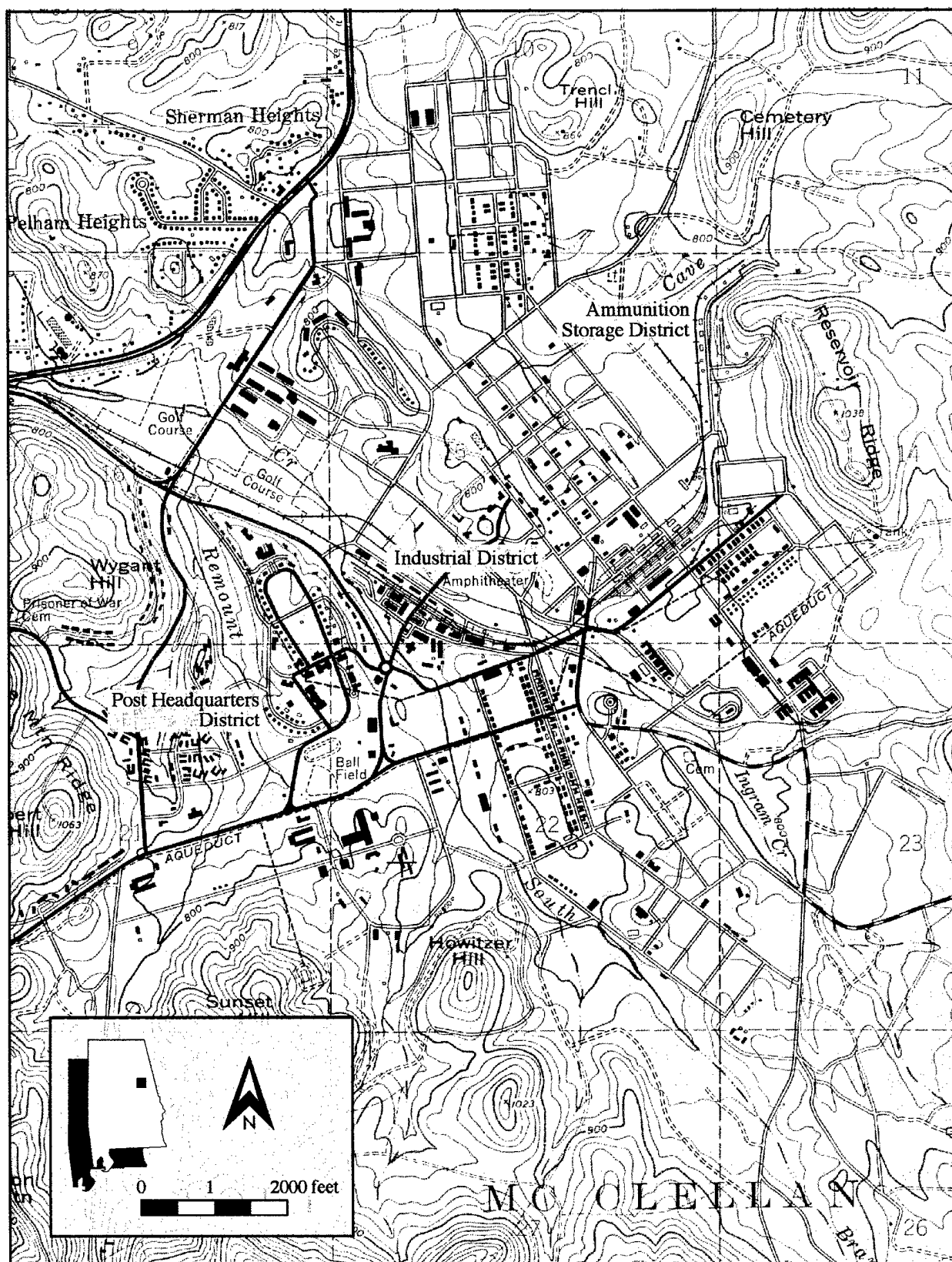
## Previous Studies

A number of previous cultural resource studies have been conducted at Fort McClellan. Some examined only archaeological resources, and those will not be described in the following paragraphs. Several recent reports related to the above-ground built environment were prepared by New South Associates for the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District. *"The Military Showplace of the South," Fort McClellan, Alabama, A Historic Building Inventory* (Reed et al. 1993b) studied pre-1942 permanent construction and documented 123 buildings through historical research, photographs and floor plans. The Post Headquarters and Industrial areas were recommended eligible for the National Register of Historic Places as districts showing well-preserved examples of 1930s military architecture and the application of city planning precepts, as well as for strong historical associations with the local community of Anniston. Seventeen more buildings that were inaccessible for the previous report were evaluated in a follow-up study, *Inventory and Evaluation of Seventeen Buildings* (Reed et al. 1994). Sixteen of these buildings were recommended eligible for the National Register.

Draft National Register nominations were prepared for the Post Headquarters District and the Industrial District (Messick 1994a, Messick 1994b). These were submitted to the Mobile District Corps of Engineers, but the districts were not officially nominated to the National Register. Another eligible district was later designated as the Ammunition Storage District (Reed and Messick 1995). While these districts were never listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the contributing buildings and structures within their boundaries are considered eligible for purposes of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. Figure 2 shows the location of the three eligible districts. Their contributing buildings are listed in Chapter III. The nomination forms are in Appendix A, B, and C.

Due to the proposed demolition of five historic ammunition magazines or igloos (buildings 4403, 4404, 4408, 4409, and 4414) in 1995, these were extensively documented according to Historic American Buildings Survey/Historic American Engineering Record (HABS/HAER) Level 1 standards. A context study and description of each is contained in *Ammunition Storage: Early Twentieth Century Design and Context* (Reed 1995). Finally, New South Associates used much of the information in these and other technical reports, along with new research and historic photographs, to form the basis

for a popular report, *Fort McClellan: A Popular History* (Reed et al. 1996). This report explains the lines of evidence in interpreting the human past, and tells the story of the American Indian and pioneer settlement of the area, as well as the military presence on the site.



Source: USGS Quadrangle; Anniston, ALA., 1956 (PR 1972).

Figure 2  
Eligible National Register Districts

## II. Methods and Evaluation Criteria

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### Research Design and National Register Criteria

Historic resource surveys and their resulting inventories provide an important basis for planning decisions. In order to expedite compliance with federal regulations concerning the historic environment, it is necessary to determine what properties are significant in that environment. The federal agency's responsibility for completing cultural resource inventories is outlined in Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended. Basic standards and guidelines for surveys have been published by the Department of Interior as part of the *Secretary of Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation*. Additional guidance is given in National Register Bulletin 24, *Guidelines for Local Surveys: A Basis for Preservation Planning* (U. S. Department of Interior 1985).

The main purpose of the current study at Fort McClellan is to provide a context to identify all buildings and structures associated with World War II or those with Cold War significance, and to determine which resources are eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), either as individual properties or districts. Once this evaluation is made, it will assist the Department of the Army in determining which properties to take into account when proposed projects may affect the area, as provided in Section 106 of the NHPA (16 U.S.C. 470) and its implementing regulations (36 CFR Part 800). The survey can also be used in long-term planning for land use and building programs, including leasing and transfer of property. While the inventory is an important first step, it is not a complete historic preservation plan. It is not within the scope of this project to present comprehensive strategies for preservation, rehabilitation or adaptive use.

The National Register of Historic Places is maintained by the National Park Service as the nation's official list of significant historic and prehistoric properties. This report will apply the criteria for evaluation according to the U. S. Department of Interior's National Register Bulletin 15. These criteria are also described as follows in the *Code of Federal Regulations, Title 36, Part 60*:

The quality of significance in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and:

A) that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or

B) that are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or

C) that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or

D) that have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in history or prehistory.

Generally, properties that have achieved significance within the last 50 years are not eligible for the NRHP unless the nomination is able to support a claim of exceptional importance under Criteria Consideration G (see Sherfy and Luce 1996). For this project, New South Associates did not systematically survey or evaluate any properties that are under 50 years of age, unless an established Cold War significance was found. This determination was made by reviewing the historical record and any pertinent documents regarding Cold War activities at Fort McClellan. Cold War significance is addressed according to guidelines established by the Department of Defense (DoD) and the U. S. Army. The DoD considers significant Cold War resources to include buildings, structures, sites, objects, and districts:

- that are directly associated with events that have made a significant contribution to, and are directly identified with, or that outstandingly represent, the broad national pattern of United States Cold War history and from which an understanding and appreciation of those patterns may be gained, or
- that are associated directly and importantly with the lives of persons nationally significant in the Cold War history of the United States, or
- that represent some great idea or ideal of the American people (e.g. Peace through Strength), or
- that embody the distinguishing characteristics of an architectural, engineering, technological, or scientific type exceptionally valuable for a study of period, style, method, or technique of construction, or that represent a significant, distinctive, and exceptional entity whose components may lack individual distinction (Center for Air Force History 1994).

Evaluations are also made by reference to "Department of the Army Interim Policy for Cold War Era Historic Properties" (Department of the Army 1995) and *Thematic Study and Guidelines: Identification and Evaluation of U. S. Army Cold War Era*

*Military-Industrial Historic Properties* prepared for the U. S. Army Environmental Center (Lavin 1998). The latter report provides a national historic context specifically for properties associated with the Army's Cold War military-industrial theme, as well as guidelines for their identification and evaluation. According to Department of the Army Pamphlet 200-4, *Cultural Resources Management*, the following considerations apply to Cold War era historic properties:

(a) The Cold War era extends from the "Iron Curtain" speech of Winston Churchill in 1946 to the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989. Properties that can attribute significance associated with this period are considered under the National Register Criteria of Exceptional Importance.

(b) The Criteria of Exceptional Importance is applied to properties that are less than 50 years old in order to evaluate the National Register eligibility pursuant to 36 CFR 60.4. A Cold War property may have significance under National Register criteria A-D, due to association with major historical events or persons, technological or scientific design achievement, or as a fragile survivor of a class of properties. The significance of Cold War era properties may lie at the national level in association with military themes directly tied to the Cold War, or at the state or local level under other themes.

(c) Examples of properties that should be evaluated for National Register eligibility in the military Cold War theme under the criteria of exceptional importance may include but not be limited to facilities associated with; nuclear weapons, research and development laboratories, testing and proving grounds, manufacturing, storage and maintenance sites. These types may represent the direct link between the U. S. commitment to defend its territory against Soviet expansion.

(d) By contrast, base operations types such as motor pools, administration buildings, and housing are not normally types that would be considered exceptionally important under a nation-wide military Cold War theme since they were merely built during the Cold War era as part of the everyday operation of the Army and are not directly associated with the Cold War in strategic or tactical terms. However, such property types, in certain instances may have had such an exceptional impact on a state or locality that they could be eligible for the National Register under other state or local themes. . .

There are approximately 1900 buildings and structures at Fort McClellan that have been assigned an individual real property number. For purposes of this study, the contractor did not consider infrastructure items such as roads, sidewalks, fences, driving courses, utility lines or poles, flag poles, information signs, fuel storage tanks, sewer lines, pipelines, wells, antennas, cable lines, ramps, wash platforms, loading docks, or grease racks. Due to the large number of these facilities, the study also did not include individual landscape features such as parks, playgrounds, parade and drill fields, obstacle courses, firing ranges, confidence courses, running tracks, outdoor sports fields or courts, picnic pavilions or recreational shelters, swimming pools, bleachers or

grandstands, ponds, drainage fields or ditches, landfills, tent pads, trails, training bunkers, or other training facilities that do not include buildings or major structures. Excluding facilities in the above categories, Fort McClellan has approximately 120 properties that were constructed before 1940, plus 180 "temporary" World War II properties, 34 permanent World War II properties, 870 Cold War era (1946-1989) properties, and 40 properties constructed after 1989.

During mobilization for World War II large numbers of temporary buildings were hastily erected across the country from standardized Army designs. The majority of buildings constructed at Fort McClellan between 1940 and 1945 were temporary structures. In compliance with a 1986 programmatic agreement among the Department of Defense, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers, the Army has completed a nationwide recordation program for its World War II temporary buildings. As a result these temporary Army buildings may be demolished without additional National Historic Preservation Act consultations. Therefore, the Fort McClellan World War II temporary buildings were not inventoried as part of this study.

The historic context and information from previous studies was used as the framework for applying the criteria for evaluation to specific properties or property types. Most potentially eligible properties in this study were expected to be significant under National Register Criterion A for their relationship to military mobilization and training at Fort McClellan during the years 1940 to 1945. The permanent properties from this era include ammunition storage magazines, warehouses, bridges, a former amphitheater, a sentry station, a studio, mess halls, a dispensary, a battalion headquarters, a National Guard headquarters, and a cemetery. These resources are evaluated with reference to the *Historic Context for Department of Defense World War II Permanent Construction* (Whelan et al. 1997). This report examines the history of World War II construction and provides a framework for identifying and evaluating permanent facilities using the National Register Criteria for Evaluation. Historic contexts define properties by their historic rather than their current real property classifications. Buildings originally built as World War II temporary construction should be evaluated within that context and not within the context of this study.



The evaluation of historic properties at Ft. McClellan must take place within both the context of the fort itself and the history of military building programs. Potential research questions relating to these buildings and structures include:

- What was the basic layout and land-use plan of Fort McClellan? How has that changed over time, specifically from World War II to the Cold War era?
- How do the historic structures reflect the history and mission of Fort McClellan? What were their original uses, and how has that changed? What property types are represented? Are any significant in illustrating the historic context, as defined by the Scope of Work? Do they represent any important historical trends, or are any buildings specifically associated with important events or persons?
- Were any standardized military designs used, or did architects design unique plans for the structures at Fort McClellan? Who prepared the plans, how did the buildings look originally, and how do they relate to similar buildings and structures documented at other locations? (See Whelan et al. 1997.)
- How did the military meet the challenge of the fast-paced construction schedule at the beginning of World War II? (Temporary buildings will not be inventoried or evaluated, but their construction will be briefly discussed in the context study.)
- What are the character-defining features of the permanent World War II buildings or structures? How have they changed over time as they have been modernized or re-used for other purposes? Which have retained enough historic integrity to be eligible for the NRHP, either individually or as part of a potential district? (Integrity is the ability of a property to convey its significance through the retention of the property's essential physical characteristics from its period of significance.)
- Did Fort McClellan have direct associations with any critical events or persons during the Cold War period (1946-1989) "that possess exceptional historical importance to the Nation or that are outstanding examples of technological or scientific achievement," as defined in the 1994 DoD Legacy study and/or U. S. Army criteria? If so, what buildings or structures are directly related to these events or persons?
- Where are the NRHP-eligible resources located? Are there any other potential historic districts within the present boundaries of Fort McClellan, in addition to those that have been documented in previous studies? If so, where are the proposed boundaries and what properties should be included? What is the level of significance (national, state or local)?

## Methods

The methodology for the field survey and research is partially described in the Scope of Work. Denise P. Messick served as the project historian for New South Associates. Field work was conducted from December 1998 through February 1999. The first task was to collect background data and review previous studies of the built

environment at Fort McClellan. These studies were described in the Introduction section (Chapter I) of this report. The project historian also reviewed current U. S. Army policies and historic context statements.

During the field work, New South obtained a complete property list and determined which buildings or structures were constructed between 1940 and 1945. The historian also collected the current real property cards on permanent buildings and structures that were constructed during World War II. This included approximately 34 properties, many of which have been surveyed or documented in previous studies and/or were already included in eligible historic districts. Five of the buildings now listed as permanent were found to have been originally constructed as temporary structures, and therefore not subject to this study. Only eight permanent buildings from World War II were found outside the eligible districts. There were also 15 World War II era bridges and a POW cemetery. These properties were located, documented, mapped, photographed and individually evaluated for National Register eligibility. Numerous roads, railroad tracks and electrical lines were also among the infrastructure dating to World War II, but these were only studied in a general sense as they related to the context.

It should be noted that many historic properties constructed prior to 1941, but utilized during World War II, have been documented in previous surveys. Three districts have already been determined eligible for the National Register, and their periods of significance extend through 1945. These are the Post Headquarters District, the Industrial District and the Ammunition Storage District (see Appendix A, B, and C). Each of these districts contains buildings or structures that were vital to World War II mobilization at Fort McClellan. Their current status was not re-evaluated for this study, since they were extensively documented within the past five years. For any World War II era buildings or structures that had not been fully evaluated previously, New South made determinations of eligibility according to applicable National Register criteria.

Historical research related to the Cold War period began with visits to the U.S. Army Chemical Corps Museum, the Women's Army Corps (WAC) Museum, and the Military Police Museum. The project historian collected information from the files of the curators at the Chemical Corps and WAC museums. Historians at the Chemical School and Military Police School were also consulted. The project historian then reviewed files at the Anniston-Calhoun Public Library and the Chemical School library.

Others at Fort McClellan assisted with information from their collections and/or names of possible contacts for oral history. While no formal oral interviews were conducted, numerous knowledgeable individuals did provide relevant data, as well as helping direct the focus of the study.

The project historian then developed information on four major training activities during the Cold War. These included the U. S. Army Chemical School, the Women's Army Corps (WAC) Center, the Military Police (MP) School, and Army Reserve and National Guard training. It was determined that the context study should focus on these four major areas of activity and the properties related to them. A review of real property lists and other documents then revealed that most buildings constructed during the Cold War period at Fort McClellan were either administrative or housing or other support facilities that were associated with Base Operations (Baseops). These types of facilities which have a mere temporal relationship with the Cold War do not qualify for consideration under the "exceptional significance" criterion. The literature search and property records were used to further narrow the focus of the study to exclude such facilities.

Due to the large number of Cold War era properties (over 870), it was not possible to do a complete inventory on individual structures, but properties were studied by functional groups. Maps and plans showing land use and major buildings related to the Chemical School, the WAC Center and School, and the MP School were created in order to create a context to illustrate these activities at certain periods in the history of the Cold War. Representative photographs were taken for the same purpose. Since National Guard and Reserve training was done in numerous buildings at various changing locations, as well as in the field, it was not feasible to illustrate this activity in a similar manner. The use of these facilities is discussed in the context. Finally, the "criterion of exceptional significance," as interpreted by applicable Army and DoD policy, was applied to these Cold War resources. For any properties thought to potentially meet this criterion, a more detailed physical inspection was made and more research was conducted. Two such facilities which were inspected were the Chemical Decontamination Training Facility (CDTF) and Building 3192 which formerly contained a radiological "hot cell."

### III. World War II Overview and Evaluation

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#### Synopsis of Pre-World War II History

The twentieth-century history of Fort McClellan is closely tied to that of nearby Anniston which was founded after the Civil War by the Woodstock Iron Company. Samuel Noble of Rome, Georgia, and General Daniel Tyler, a wealthy industrialist from Connecticut, set out to establish a model city, a progressive Southern town structured by industry. It was laid out on a grid plan on the valley floor adjacent to iron ore deposits. Trees were placed on major avenues to relieve the monotony, and parks were made part of the overall plan. The town was privately owned until 1883 and it enjoyed growth and prosperity until the depression of the 1890's. It began to actively look for ways to enliven its economy and, through pressure on influential members of Congress, was chosen as the location for Camp Shipp which occupied a site north of town on Blue Mountain from 1898 to 1899 (Gates 1978:141). By the time the reserve camp was closed, Anniston's iron making industry was being replaced by textile manufacturing and pipe making.

In 1912 Congressman Fred L. Blackmon made advances toward the War Department to spur interest in the Choccolocco Mountains as a range for artillery training. The federal government decided in 1917 to purchase the property north of Anniston. The acquisition was orchestrated by the Anniston Chamber of Commerce and, under the purchase agreement, farmers were allowed to work their fields through the summer of 1917. When the Army needed the land sooner than expected, the Chamber underwrote the crop loss.

The events of 1917 compelled the hasty construction of a National Guard camp. War was declared on Germany on April 6th and the Selective Service Bill was passed on May 18th. The Cantonment Division of the Army was mandated to have 32 camps ready by September 1. Camp McClellan was one of the chosen 32, a National Guard cantonment able to handle 27,152 soldiers. It was the first Southern installation named in honor of a Northerner, worse, the commander of the Union forces between 1861 and

1862. This challenge to Southern sensibilities was transcended in light of the economic boost the camp would inject into the town of Anniston.

In Washington a cadre of volunteers formed a Committee on Emergency Construction, with William Starrett as chair, to set up a building program. These men included industrialists, construction experts, architects and others who managed the complicated process of preparing typical layouts and plans. Charles L. Dulin was the Constructing Quartermaster placed in charge of Camp McClellan. Dulin chose the site of the new camp in the northwestern quadrant after completing a survey of the reservation which considered topography and geography (Dulin 1917). No towns or villages were displaced since the land use had been mostly agricultural. The area was fairly level, well-drained, and connected by existing roads to Anniston and Jacksonville. It was also closest to the tracks of the Southern Railway.

The World War I post was laid out in 26 blocks designated as areas, each performing a specific function and containing a set number of buildings. The layout of buildings within each block, particularly those devoted to housing the infantry units, was highly regimented. The positioning of the blocks was not quite linear and appears to have been dependent on the most advantageous way to use the creeks and topographical features of the site. The logistics of establishing this incipient city were laboriously orchestrated by Colonel Dulin as he struggled with water supply, finding laborers, dealing with labor strikes, and the scientific management of labor, road construction and heavy rainfall. Soldiers would be delivered by train, marched over fields and taken to a cleared area to begin constructing their camps. Only one-fourth of the materials used in the camp's construction was actually carried by rail to the site; the bulk were brought in by truck or wagon on the country road.

By November of 1917, all officers and enlisted men of the 29th Division, totaling 27,753 individuals, had arrived. Training at the camp was rigorous. Community relations were forged with the election of a town representative, W. P. Acker, to deal with the military. When the 1st Separate Negro Company of Maryland arrived, they were promptly introduced to the African-American community of Anniston to avoid the racial tension that occurred during the Spanish-American War (MacGregor 1981:7). By February of 1919, 1,534 buildings had been constructed at the division camp, plus 118 associated with the hospital, 28 built by military organizations, and 16 built by societies. The hospital was imposing, with single ward buildings aligned in four

columns and joined through walkways. The whole area was bounded by a circular street pattern and sited on an elongated knoll, ostensibly to ward off contamination and noise. This hill would later become the Post Headquarters area.

In the 1920s the incredible expansion of the previous decade was cut back, permanent construction was discouraged, and maintenance on a reduced budget became the Quartermaster Corps' primary mission. As the World War I camps began to fall into disrepair, the mood of the public began to swing in the direction of increased funding. In 1924 Secretary of War John Weeks submitted a long-range plan to Congress to replace temporary structures with permanent barracks, quarters, and hospitals and updated water and sewage systems. The Construction Service was awarded 126 million dollars by Congress between 1926 and 1930 and talented men were recruited to fill the ranks of the Quartermaster Corps.

Major General B. Frank Cheatham's vision of a new program of post development resulted in a period of successful and healthy growth which included Camp McClellan, now Fort McClellan by authority of a 1929 War Department order. Army Chief of Staff General Charles P. Summerall, who had negotiated the camp's purchase in 1917, was also influential in attaining its permanency as a Regular Army Post for one regiment of Infantry. Three infantry barracks were completed by February 1930 to be followed by quarters for officers and non-commissioned officers. Through 1932, 685 million dollars was expended by the government to construct mess halls, warehouses, hospital buildings, garages, and improvements to the National Guard Training Area (Lane 1955:12).

The intensity of the Depression halted further progress while military spending was curtailed in 1933. President Franklin D. Roosevelt launched the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) and the Public Works Administration (PWA) to help stem unemployment. These programs and others which followed benefited construction at military posts across the country by channeling funds into relief programs which created and sustained work for the Construction Division. In 1936 and 1937 Works Progress Administration (WPA) workers constructed the Enlisted Men's Service Club, the gymnasium, assembly hall auditorium (Hutchinson Hall), the main post exchange, the officers' club now called Remington Hall, Silver Chapel, stables, garages, and numerous other buildings and structures ranging from coal trestles to warehouses to utilities, streets and lighting. Funds were also used to dismantle temporary structures

and to move and reassemble the housing known as the Rock Cottages to another site. New Deal programs defined and enhanced the post and provided work to the unemployed. In many ways the 1937 fort was a new and improved version of the 1919 camp. The layout of the permanent buildings was essentially grafted upon a site plan and design brought into reality in the haste of 1917. A strict grid arrangement was absent and streets and occupation areas conformed to the topography.

The 1930's post also benefited from the expertise of city planners, modern architects and landscape architects who were consulted and hired by General Cheatham to improve the beauty as well as the function of the new fort. George B. Ford's hand is evident in the plans of a score of other posts of that generation including Fort Benning in Georgia. Lt. H. B. Nurse (1928:15) gave the theoretical framework with which the posts were planned, citing five laws of design that are portrayed in nature: Unity, Consonance in Design, Diversity, Balance, and Radiation. Also considered were the three elements of Army posts: operation, administration, and housing. Buildings would be styled in one theme, surrounded by open spaces, and connected by broad main arteries and local streets of various plans and widths which followed natural contours. Plans were not simply generated in Washington, but each post commander and Corps Area Commander had an active voice in the planning process from the beginning. Posts would be divided into areas grouped by function and it was the planner's task to unify the whole. Ford was interested in creating an environment that would be a healthy place to bring up children. Cheatham also suggested that posts have individual programs for landscaping.

Barracks were usually among the first buildings constructed. During this period, these were typically three stories in height and 450 feet in length with a skeleton frame of reinforced concrete and an exterior finished in regional styles. Modern conveniences included up-to-date kitchens, lavatories and recreation rooms. When General Cheatham asked the wives of officers and non-commissioned officers about their housing preferences, they overwhelmingly endorsed single family homes. Interior arrangements and number of bedrooms were configured according to rank and were fairly standardized. A statutory limit was placed on how much could be spent on each type of house.

The Design Branch deemed Georgian Revival and Spanish Colonial Revival styles appropriate to certain regions of the country. While bases in New England

tended to have brick exteriors and slate roofs, stucco exteriors and tile roofs were more common in their Southern counterparts such as Fort McClellan. Climatic conditions were also considered. The updated installation was initially used by infantry units, ROTC units, National Guard units, and as headquarters for supervising 45 Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) camps in the Southeast. By the 1940s Fort McClellan would be divided into at least five defined areas: the Post Headquarters Area, the Warehouse area, the Railhead area, the Hospital area, and the Magazine Area. Fort McClellan soon gained a reputation as the "military showplace of the South."

## World War II Historic Context

The 1940s witnessed a second boom period for Fort McClellan directly hinged to world affairs. Asia was vulnerable to Japan's expansionism, France had fallen to Germany, and Great Britain was threatened. Delays in beginning mobilization evaporated as Roosevelt took steps to prepare for war. One hundred seventy-five million dollars were accorded to beefing up coastal defense works, updating arsenals, expanding existing military installations, and creating new posts. The Selective Service Bill of 1940 was passed on the condition that the draft would commence once proper arrangements were made for the draftees in terms of housing, sanitation, and medical care. Thus the need to house men, particularly draftees, was foremost and was needed proverbially "yesterday":

The original timetable for housing Guardsmen and selectees was a construction man's nightmare. The schedule for the Guard camps was particularly rigorous. Counting from 9 September, the day appropriations became available, Hartman had from one week to three months to ready camps for the Guard divisions. Regulars and Guardsmen could rough it for a time, using field tents and latrines. But, Congress made it clear, draftees could not. Snug barracks, toilets, showers, heating, and electric lights would have to be available when they arrived. In other words, camps would have to be virtually completed (Fine and Remington 1989:199).

Hence, a new era in "best practice" in caring for America's military had arrived much like the progress garnered during World War I, and immediacy was once again key. The first camps to be prepared within this "construction man's nightmare" were Forts Jackson, Lewis, Dix and Sill. McClellan was placed within the second tier of forts to be ready by October 15, 1940. Many of the 18 sites were newly selected, unlike McClellan whose military association dated to 1917. Mobilization construction plans



were guided by five principles: speed, simplicity, conservation of materials, flexibility and safety (Wasch et al. 1993:25).

In order to maximize the scarce resources of time and material, the military used temporary construction wherever possible, especially for troop housing and training facilities. Since Fort McClellan was a training camp, the vast majority of its new construction during World War II was temporary in nature. However, selected buildings and certain types of activities required more substantial permanent construction. These included industrial facilities such as water or sewage treatment plants or heating plants/boiler houses; research and development facilities that required specialized or sterile laboratory conditions; and storage facilities for volatile or perishable supplies. At Fort McClellan permanent construction included bridges, cold storage warehouses, some administration or headquarters buildings, certain facilities for officers, an amphitheater, and a number of igloo-type ammunition bunkers. These ammunition magazines were low-scale, earth-bermed concrete structures designed with the latest safety features.

For the new camps, "typicals" were used to formulate layout. The typicals were a codification of prior experience in camp layout, as well as current improvements in design published by the Quartermaster's office. Architects and engineers would then work to suit the typical to local conditions :

Incomplete and tentative, the typicals nevertheless served as good working guides. From them the engineers quickly ascertained the Army's principal requirements. Every unit, large and small, would remain intact. Companies would be grouped into battalions and battalions onto regiments. Regimental areas would adjoin a central parade ground. Hospitals would be in isolated spots, away from noise and dirt. Storage depots and motor parks would be near railway sidings or along main roads. To prevent the spread of fire, one-story buildings would be at least 40 feet apart; two story buildings, 50 . . . Showing grid platted streets and straight rows of buildings, the typicals envisaged a quadrangular arrangement (Fine and Remington 1989:208).

The typicals were widely changed to suit local conditions and also to suit the dictums of the Corps area commanders. The typicals were probably also helpful to planners involved with expanding older posts such as Fort McClellan. The company group typically had three barracks, a mess hall, a storehouse and a recreation building. The regimental group had additional buildings such as administration, infirmary, cold storage, garage and fire house. Regimental groups were separated by 250-foot fire breaks (Wasch et al. 1993:35).

A "Master Plan" dating to 1946 shows the World War II expansion of the main base area since 1937 (Figure 3). The 1946 map shows the careful evolution of functional areas, namely the Post Headquarters, Warehouse, Hospital, Railhead, and Magazine Areas. The areas which housed the troops remained situated as they were in 1937, albeit with more buildings. As discussed in the quote above, units remained intact within their separate camps; these areas are denoted numerically as 10, 12, 13, 5, 6, 8, and 14-20. Their autonomy was insured by the presence of adjacent mess halls, service clubs, and theaters. The sewage disposal plant, incinerators, post dump, cemetery, and magazine area were placed at some distance from the main post for sanitary considerations and for safety. A "Civilian Village" was added between 1937 and 1946, and this residential zone was laid out similar to the post command area. A traffic circle was also added by the firehouse joining the "Middle Gate Road" (now Baltzell), 15th Street, 20th Street, "South Gate Road," and Post Headquarters Road. Significantly, the base plan still retained the overall look of the 1917 camp, with the main areas still clustered around the railroad spur while the battalion areas remained in block formation stretching to the north and south.

Standardization in building design was practiced in World War I but truly refined during the Second World War. The expansion of the portfolio of temporary or wooden structures needed to house the army of World War II was the responsibility of the Quartermaster Corps. This entailed not only the composition of standardized plans for barracks, but also all the other buildings needed to care for the newly inducted soldier. Mess halls, hospitals, bakeries, laundries, storehouses, shops, administration buildings, recreation halls, post exchanges and theaters were all part of the inventory of designs created by the Quartermaster's staff. The evolution of the 700 Series, the 800 Series, and later the Modified Theater of Operations Series and the T. O. 700 series, is thoroughly explored in *World War II and the U.S. Army Mobilization Plan: A History of 700 and 800 Series Cantonment Construction* (Wasch et al. 1993).

Since both the 700 and 800 series buildings were developed before the country went to war, the designs were not as limited by the material and financial shortages which characterized the war years. The quintessential barrack of the 700 series was built in great numbers at Fort McClellan. The two-story frame building was 29' 6" wide and 80' long, and able to accommodate 63 men (Plan No. 700-1165). It stood on concrete or masonry footings, except for the internal showers and lavatory which were on a concrete slab at the end of the barrack. Windows were usually double hung with



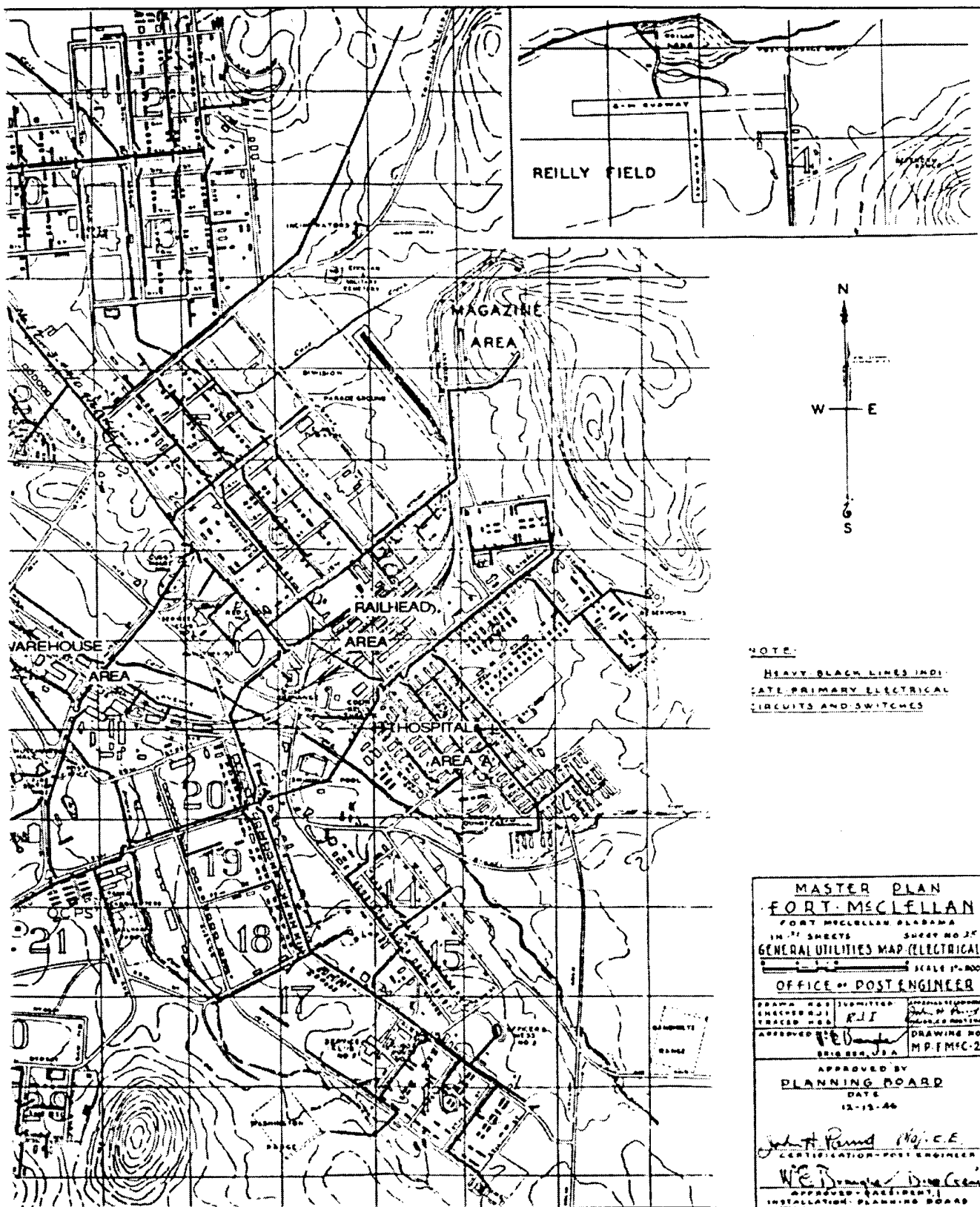


Figure 3  
Master Plan, 1946

six-over-six or eight-over-eight lights. Both first and second story windows were topped by a continuous eave known as an "aqua media." Chimneys, constructed of brick at the base and steel at the top, were located four feet from the interior wall. The wood frame roof was sheathed with a mineral-surfaced roofing material.

Standardized plans were like recipes in which various ingredients could be shuffled to produce a variation on a theme. Electrical, heating and plumbing details were identical for many building types, and structural plans were similar. The core of each company's physical organization included mess halls, administration/storehouses, recreation rooms and barracks. At the division level, there were even standardized plans for chapels. Although the cantonments were designed and constructed to meet the demands of expediency, they were also able to incorporate technological advances that had become standard by the early 1940s. Thus the "citizen soldiers" of World War II could get the comforts that many Americans now expected.

At Fort McClellan and all over the country, a large percentage of these "temporary" buildings outlasted their planned usefulness. From 1940 to the present, millions of American soldiers "passed through these buildings on their way to the battlefields of Western Europe, the South Pacific, Korea, and Vietnam" (Wasch et al. 1993:3). Figure 4 shows examples of these type of buildings at Fort McClellan that are still standing, but no longer in use. At least 40 one- and two-story temporary barracks, plus dining facilities and other related structures, still exist from the period 1940-43.

Both permanent and temporary construction took place at Fort McClellan in the 1940s to accommodate the 27th Division. This phase of construction was accomplished with 6.5 million dollars in federal funding. Two firms shared the McClellan contract for the projected construction: the Dunn Construction Company of Birmingham and John S. Hodgson of Montgomery. The policy set by the Quartermaster's Office was to hire local/regional firms capable of meeting the standards set by the government. Size and workload were two important criteria in the selection. Engineering skill was provided by an Atlanta firm, Weidman and Singleton, and supervision for all was supplied by Major Samuel C. MacIntyre (Lane 1955:15). An article in the *Anniston Star* (March 31, 1946) stated that the majority of the men of the 27th lived in tents until the summer of 1942 (Figure 5).

War Department construction, both temporary and permanent, was concentrated during the first years of the war. By December 1942, 85 percent of all World War II military construction was complete (Whelan et al. 1997). Lane (1955:15) dates the completion of the preparations of the fort for the 27th Division to February 10, 1942, but notes that the fort was adequately prepared for the troops' arrival by January 1941. Overall, this generation of buildings was constructed during the tenure of Commanding Officer Colonel John L. Jenkins. The improvements made included 47 miles of paved roads, 27 miles of unpaved roads, 27 warehouses, 9 igloo magazines, 12 shops and a small foundry, school buildings, a cold storage facility able to handle the needs of 40,000 individuals, sewage facilities to handle 50,000, a general hospital, new cantonments, 3 dormitories for civilian workers, 4 swimming pools, 2 libraries, service clubs, guest houses, 200 dayrooms, 3 bowling alleys, 5 theaters, and an amphitheater with a 12,000 person seating capacity (Lane 1955:25).

The large size of the hospital (1,728 beds) mandated the construction of numerous covered walkways to negotiate the entire facility. It consisted of a series of one-story wards resembling temporary barracks (Figure 6). None of these buildings still exist. The outdoor amphitheater was completed in June 1943, and named the Monteith Amphitheater in 1945 (Figure 7). It saw a host of musical and theatrical performances and exhibitions. By the close of the war, 17 million dollars were expended to further this generation of construction.

In addition to the buildings constructed during this period, the Fort was expanded to the east and west to provide more advantageous training facilities for the 27th Division. A 22,168 acre tract, now known as Pelham Range, was purchased for \$675,000 and was used for artillery, tank, and heavy mortar firing and as a bivouac area (Lane 1955:21-22). The area was originally known as the Morrisville Maneuvering Area. This purchase would entail the relocation of 200 families associated with the town of Peaceburg as well as a number of homesteaders who had farmed along Cane Creek and its tributaries. To the east another corridor of land, totaling 4,160 acres, was acquired to connect the post with Talladega National Forest, allowing the military access to the forest for training maneuvers. A final area of expansion was the establishment of a munitions dump to be constructed by Dunn Construction and John S. Hodgson and Company in the vicinity of Eastaboga and then connected via highway with Fort McClellan.

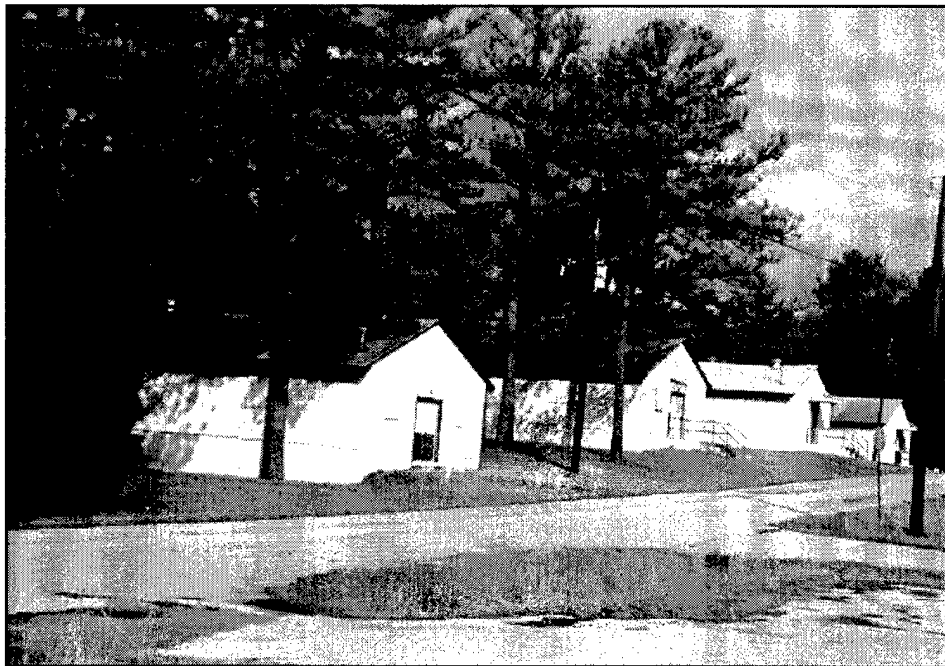
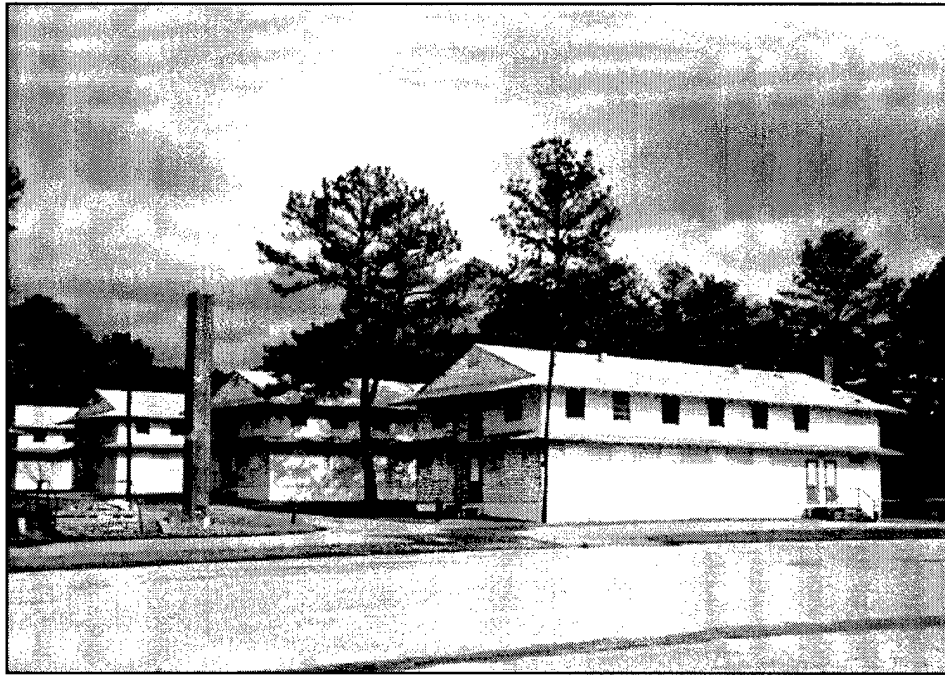


Figure 4  
Extant Examples of W.W. II Temporary Construction



Figure 5  
Detail from 1942-3 Panoramic Photograph Showing 27th Division Camp





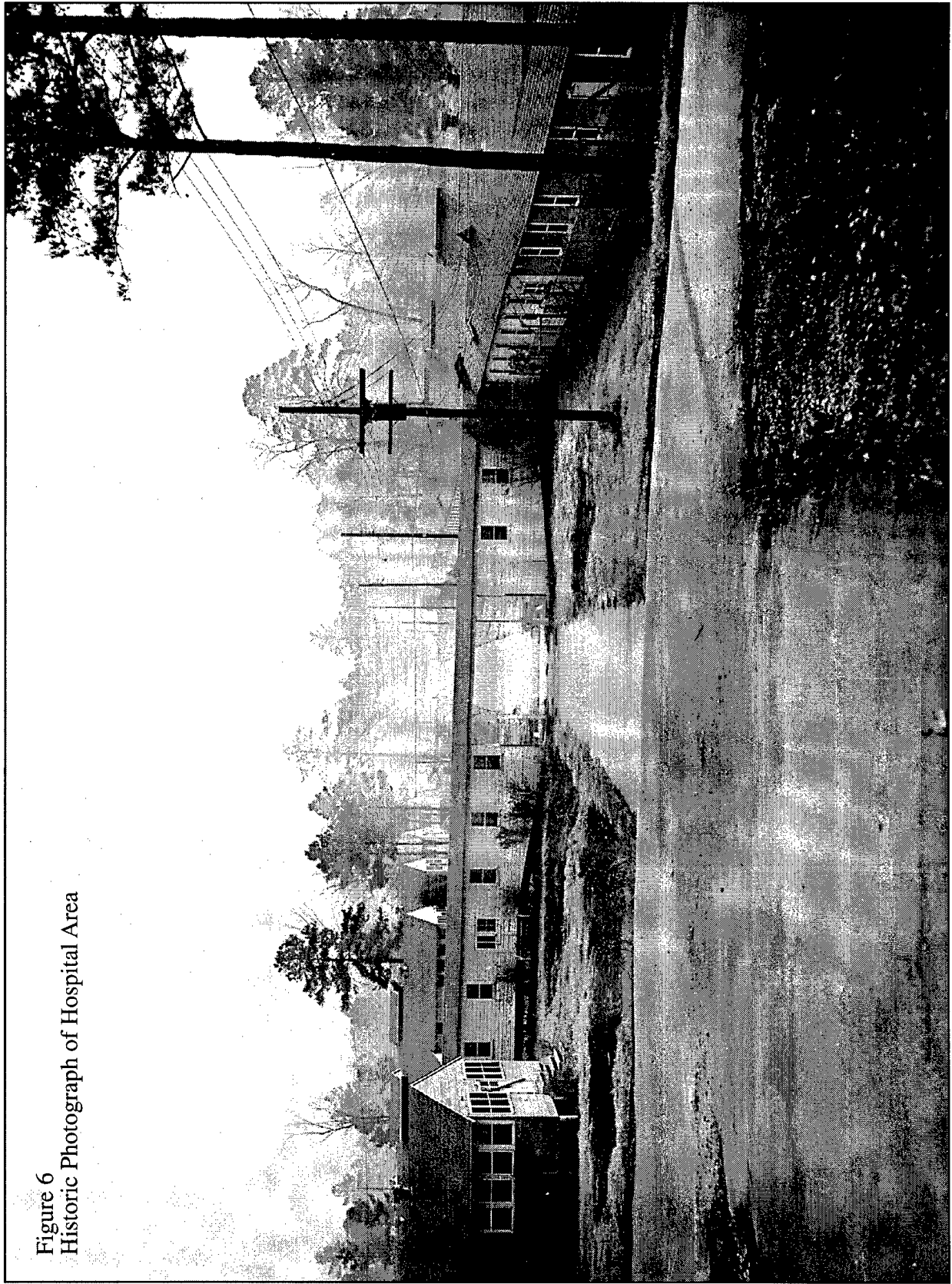


Figure 6  
Historic Photograph of Hospital Area

Courtesy, Fort McClellan.

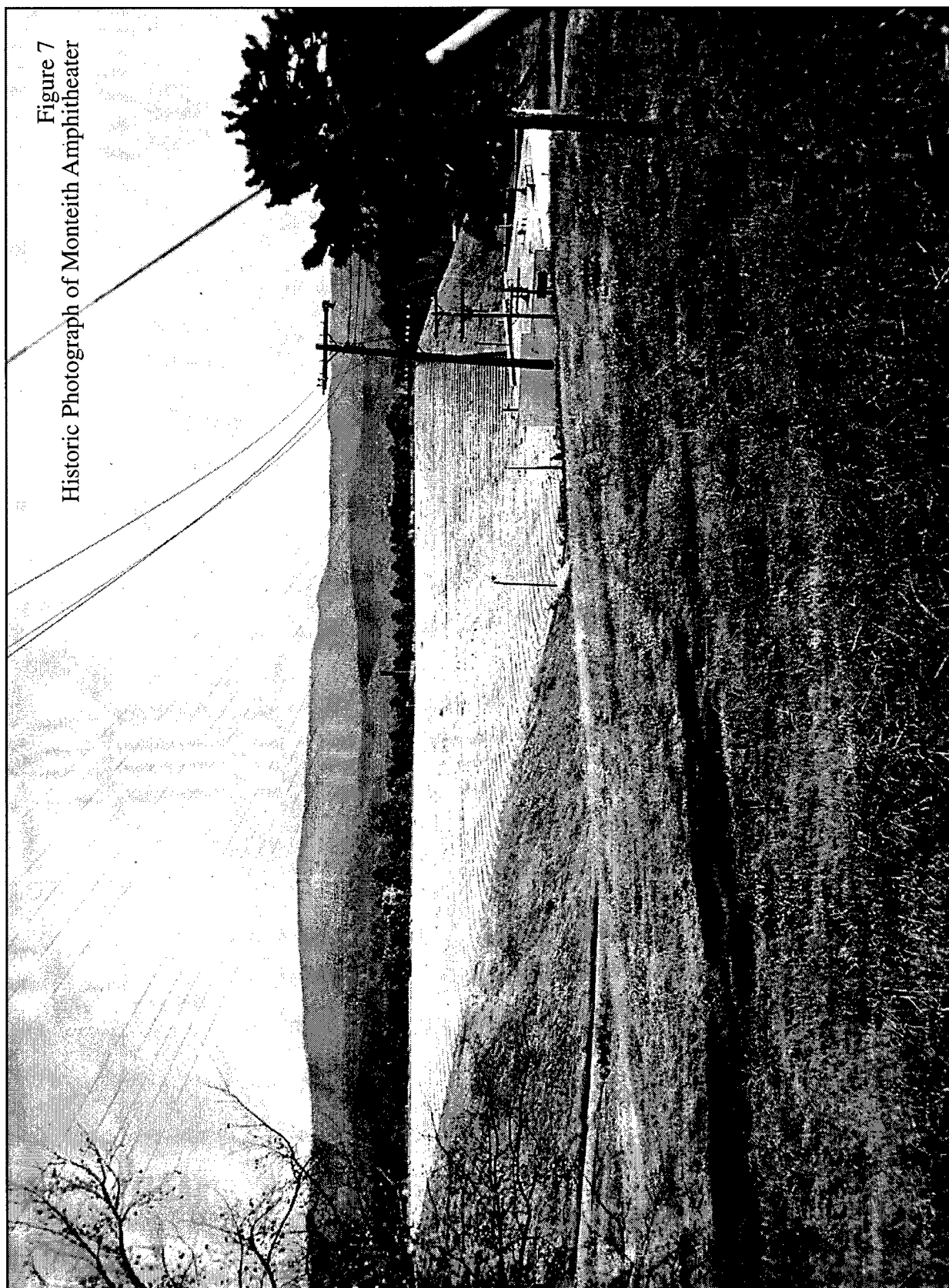


Figure 7  
Historic Photograph of Monteith Amphitheater

Courtesy, Fort McClellan.

The 27th Division, a National Guard unit from the state of New York, was the first to enjoy the expanded post. The division, composed of 1,200 men and officers, was lead by Major General William N. Haskell. Their training, devised by the War Department, was staged in three levels. The first entailed a 16-week basic training, followed by combat training on a division level emphasizing cooperation between infantry, artillery and air corps branches. The final phase was devoted to actual field maneuvers involving the operation of division, corps, and armies.

The success of the first phase of training was actually tested at Fort McClellan. The test was conducted and watched by several high-ranking military officials. Major General Frederic H. Smith, Commanding General, VII Corps conducted the test while Lt. General Lear, Commanding General Second Army and Major General Leslie McNair, General Headquarters, Washington DC were observers. As it was the first test of its kind for the National Guard units, the testing process took on national significance. The 27th passed admirably, beginning the more detailed training within the set regimen. The field maneuvers involved in the last stage of training were held in Tennessee where the participating armies met in battle (Lane 1955:18).

As the 27th Division began to settle into the local environment, they and the city of Anniston began and continued to have a close and harmonious relationship. Articles published in the *Anniston Star* in 1941 herald the return of the 27th from maneuvers and announce a public dance held in their honor on Main Street, exclaiming happily, "A Yankee Army will invade Anniston tonight." The Anniston Chamber of Commerce sent individual invitations to Anniston women, and special cars were hired to ferry women from Birmingham Southern College and Jacksonville State Teacher's College to the gala (*Anniston Star*, October 8, 1941). Vaudeville shows and boxing events were also scheduled to hold the interest of the servicemen. Churches provided clubrooms for the soldiers. There was, however, some concern about the spread of bootlegging and roadside "honky-tonks" in a county that was dry (*Anniston Times*, August 6, 1941).

The rapport between Anniston and the 27th Division was interrupted after the attack on Pearl Harbor. The 27th Division was ordered to an "unknown destination" on December 19, 1941; they arrived in Hawaii on May 21, 1942. The 27th fought in the Pacific theater of war until 1945, and participated in the occupation of Japan.

The Branch Immaterial Replacement Training Center (BIRTC) replaced the 27th Division at McClellan. Arriving on January 15, 1942, the BIRTC was one of two of its kind within the early days of mobilization and was actually an experiment in training centers. Basically, recruits received eight weeks of basic training including rifle marksmanship; close and extended order drill; field hygiene and sanitation; care of equipment; military courtesy and discipline; and defense against chemical, air and mechanized attacks. At ease with this set of military information, the recruit would then be sent to combat units for training or to a special branch of the Army if their civilian skills warranted such a selection. In 1943, the BIRTC was replaced by the Infantry Replacement Training Center (IRTC). The major change was the elongation of the training period to 17 weeks with combat training conducted within the last eight weeks.

Lane (1955:23) notes that during the first months of IRTC's existence, troops were sent to additional combat training areas after their training at Fort McClellan, but once the program was more established, trainees were sent immediately into combat positions. The training they received while at McClellan included infiltration courses, training within simulated urban areas, and overhead artillery fire, as well as experiencing the movement of tanks over foxholes built by the trainees. Geared toward war within the European theater, the accouterments and tactics taught changed after the end of the war with Germany. How to prevail over the site-specific problems of the Pacific theater took precedence, and training courses in tropical diseases were held. A final transformation of the program took place at the close of the war when it began to prepare the soldiers for occupation duty rather than combat. IRTC was phased out at Fort McClellan in 1946 when it was replaced by the Recruit Training Center (RTC).

After the leave-taking of the 27th Division, Fort McClellan had the distinction of acting as headquarters for the 92nd Infantry Division, the Army's second African-American Division. October 15, 1942 marked their activation under the command of Major General Edward M. Almond. Lane (1955:25) reports that 6,500 men were trained at McClellan from the 92nd, while others from that division were trained at Camps Robinson, Atterbury, and Breckenridge. Both the 92nd and 93rd Infantry Division were survivors of front-line combat during World War I. Moreover, the 93rd was noted as serving with distinction with the French forces (MacGregor 1981:7). Despite this track record, the Army still held rigidly to a segregationist policy, a legacy of World War I.

However, this policy came under fire as civil rights leaders began to take the Army to task. World War II brought into focus many of the stumbling blocks in the path of integration. The White House, civil rights groups and the military entered into a debate over how to enable the black soldier to participate fully within the American military.

Regardless of the talk at the top of the political and military hierarchy, most African-Americans who served during World War II would be housed and taken care of in "separate but equal" facilities. "There were no special drawings for black housing, although 'from a morale standpoint, it [was] believed highly desirable to house all colored troops in one area.' In the South, segregation was accommodated by adding separate toilet facilities for blacks in theaters" (Wasch et al. 1993:22). The impact of this policy at Fort McClellan is not visible on the 1946 map and the only map showing marks of a segregationist policy is a "General Map showing the BIRTC Area" which locates a "colored cafeteria." However, this may have been used by civilians who worked at the fort, rather than military personnel.

The men of the 92nd remained at McClellan until 1943. They were first moved to Arizona, then later ordered overseas to the European theater of war where the division fought in both the North Apennines and the Po Valley campaigns in Italy. The 92nd Division was deactivated in 1945 (Lane 1955:25).

Other groups housed on the post included the station complement which tripled in number during the War. In addition, the post complement embraced two detachments of Women's Army Auxiliary Corps (WAAC), later redesignated the Women's Army Corps (WAC). The first detachment was white, the second group black. The women in these detachments acted in administrative and clerical roles at the Post Headquarters; handled the Post motor pool; and worked in the bakeries, service clubs, mess, and supply (Lane 1955:25). Women in the corps were afforded housing considered "separate but better" than that given to male soldiers. The essential WAC barracks was a converted Theater of War (T.O.) barracks. The plans involved either remodeling existing enlisted men's barracks or using new drawings.

Female occupancy was accommodated by the installation of toilet partitions and doors; the subdivision of showers and hanging of shower curtains; the hanging of window curtains; the construction of a closed corridor from T. O. buildings to latrines; the inclusion of laundry tubs and ironing boards; replacing fire escape ladders with stairs; and adding a beauty parlor to the company group. In addition, women's housing was located at least 50 yards from the nearest men's housing. (Wasch et al. 1993:22)

The Prisoner of War (POW) camp established at Fort McClellan in June of 1943 also figures significantly into the history of the fort. Initially the United States had agreed to handle 50,000 prisoners stationed in England, but with the North Africa campaign ongoing, camps were needed to accommodate a greater number of prisoners. By May 1943, the Allies had cleared the Germans from North Africa. The thirty POW camps built in 1942 in the United States were soon followed by others (Walker 1988:21). World War II was the only war in which such large numbers of foreign nationals were held as prisoners on American soil. At the end of World War II, more than 400,000 Axis prisoners were in detention in over 500 scattered camps. Many were in the South and Southwest to take advantage of climate and provide replacement workers for the many rural laborers who were serving in the military. Alabama alone was home to more than 15,000 prisoners in four base camps across the state (Walker 1988:4-5).

Standards for POW housing were generally governed by the Geneva Convention of 1929. POWs were not to be confined in cells or within their barracks, but in enclosed stockades. Facilities were to be sanitary, healthful and adequately heated and lighted. Standardized plans used for POW barracks were similar to those used for military troops, except that they had separate latrines and bathhouses. "Each facility contained prisoner barracks, guard barracks, administration buildings, a warehouse and utility area, hospital compound, and a recreation area all within a stockade guarded by watch towers" (Wasch 1993:22).

McClellan's POW camp was completed in May 1943. Established west of the Headquarters area and south of "Middle Gate," the camp was designed with a standard layout for a POW camp for up to 3,000 individuals (Provost Marshall General, 1941-1945). The camp was laid out in three compounds, having rows of barracks in each section to accommodate 12 companies. The camp was essentially self-contained, featuring kitchens, orderly rooms, dayrooms, dispensaries, a library, a reading room, chapel, open air stage and athletic fields (Lane 1955:28).

Shortly after receiving a complement of prisoners, the camp was visited by Captain Edward Shannahan of the Provost Marshall's Office. His report noted the presence of two officers and 3,002 enlisted men who were housed in barracks or "Caribbean type buildings," measuring 20 feet by 40 feet. Twenty men inhabited one

barrack. A similar inspection occurring in July 1945 enumerated seven officers, 889 non-commissioned officers and 1,650 enlisted men.

Edouard Patte, a Red Cross inspector, visited the camp on December 11, 1944 and described the following activities of the imprisoned men:

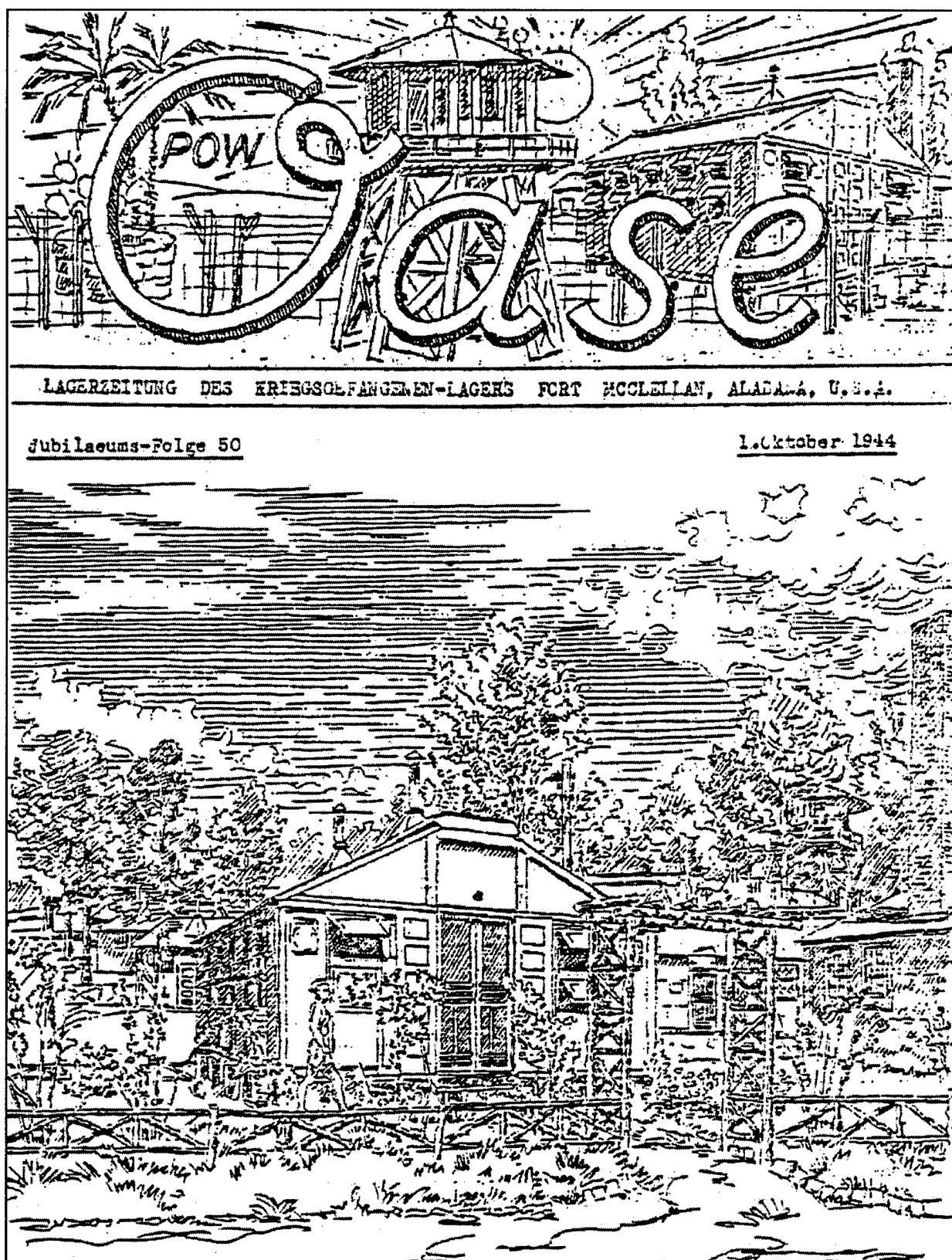
I had the most interesting conversation with Lt. Col. Schmidt, who controls the large POW camp and the only sub-camp left. Since my last visit 4 barracks were set aside as art studios. Within them are working a few painters, sculptors, toy-makers and handicraft addicts who do some commendable work. Those little studios with self-made benches, old canvas frames, tin cans full of red, blue, yellow, black and white, with paintings of European landscapes, of marines, of winter scenes, of still nature . . . you will find amidst them sincere artists who have found painting, drawing, and sculpting the best outlet for their inner force.

With great understanding Col. Schmidt has helped those men in setting some space, in ordering materials and equipment, and in attempting to secure in the various canteens of the Fort a ready market for the finished work. Weaving, leather work, wood carving absorb the time of 120 men in special workshops . . .

I had at the end of my stay at the Fort a most unusual experience in visiting the attractive little zoo, built by a POW who had been a circus attendant in Germany. After having been taken to the Airarium where beautiful birds of all colors and shapes - 38 different species - were kept, I was given for a few minutes a handful of snakes, half asleep, cold, black, silver, gray, brown. I must confess my preference for handling other animals. Then, as long as the alligator and the turtles were hibernating and therefore not ready for a social call, we passed to the next little house with flying squirrel, possums, and raccoons. The POW entered a small enclosure, moved a few stones, awoke a beautiful fox and tried with much skill, poise and persuasion, to teach to obey his voice. First frightened, then sneaky, then calm, then obedient, at last the captive animal tamed by a captive man learned the lesson; but as soon as the POW disappeared it certainly forgot it! The circus man had a smile - or was it a grin - when he said to me "Sir, neither man nor animal can ever learn anything when captive."

The prisoners also printed their own camp newspaper "Die Oase," translated "The Oasis." A number of mimeographed issues from 1944 have recently been found (Figure 8). According to Walker (1988:9), after the military Special Projects Division labeled the newspaper "militantly Nazi" and "very dangerous," the paper began to appear monthly rather than weekly (ostensibly due to a "paper shortage"), and its editor, POW Paul Metzger, was transferred to a camp for uncooperative prisoners. The issues that have survived mostly discuss daily life in the camp, including drawings and illustrations. The prisoners listened to German phonograph records, read German books, started their own band, and even organized a theater group and built a stage with curtains. Female roles were filled by men in appropriate costumes. The newspaper had sections with jokes, question-and-answer columns, and sports scores from teams in camp. Barracks





Source: Anniston-Calhoun County Public Library.

Figure 8  
Cover of POW Camp Newspaper



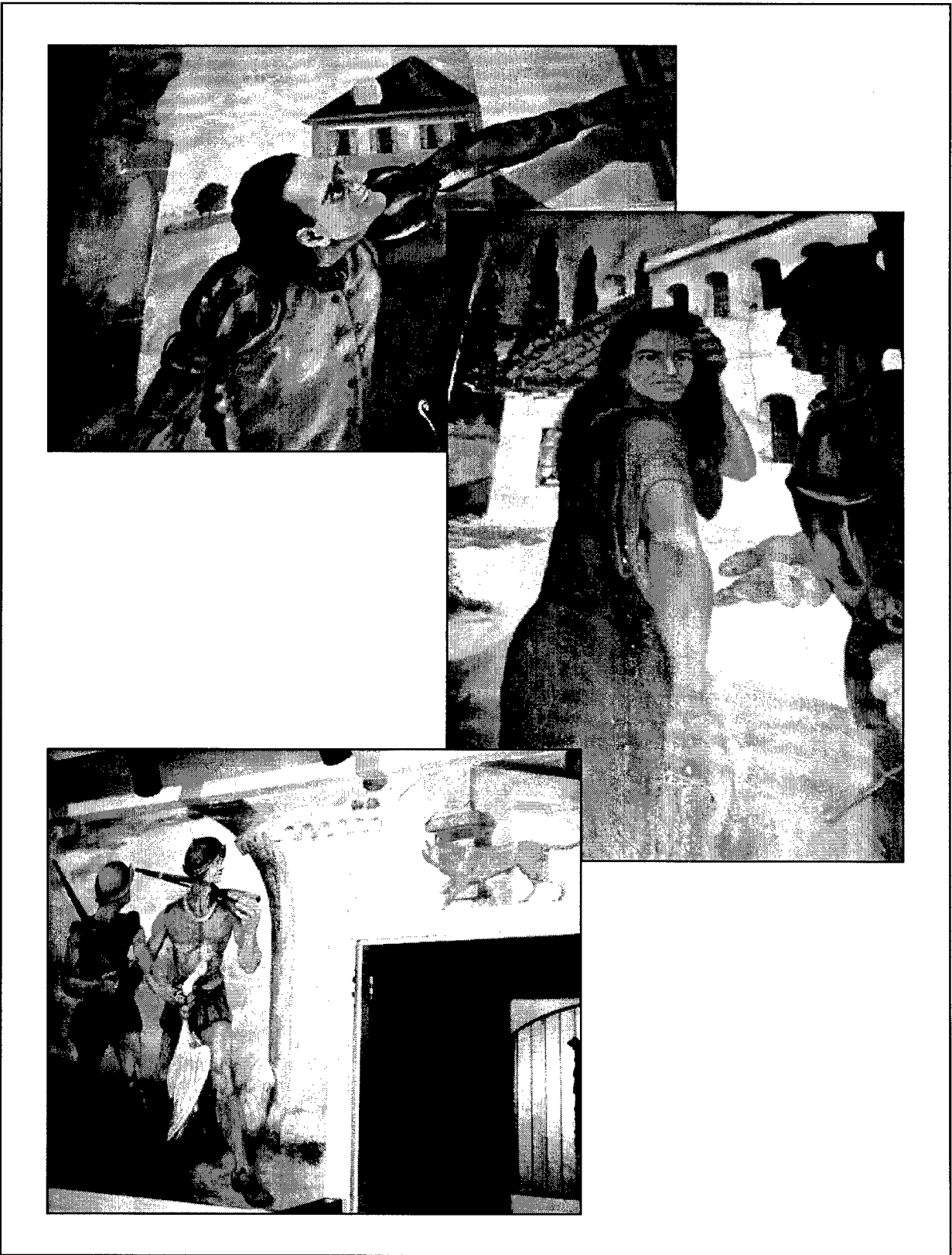
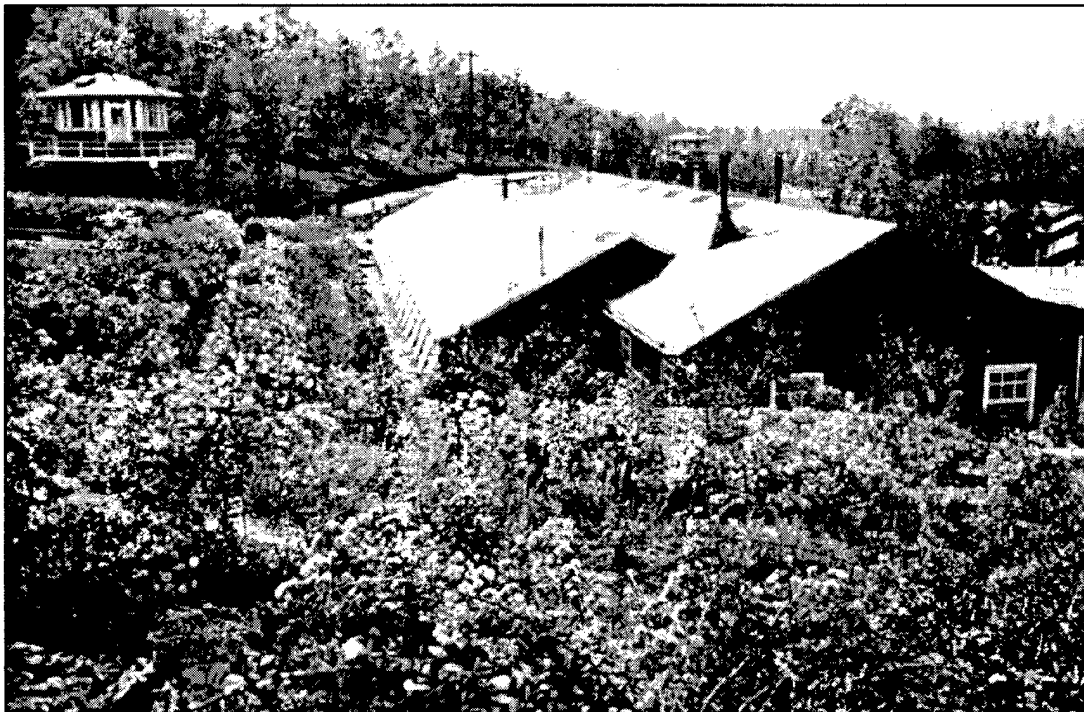


Figure 9  
Examples of POW Murals in Building 51



POW Cemetery



Greenhouse in the rear of POW Camp

Courtesy, Fort McClellan.

Figure 10  
Historic Views of POW Cemetery and Greenhouse

were described as places where pictures, homemade shelves and stools, and other items were placed to make them appear "homey." A camp canteen provided useful items for purchase. The weather was often under discussion. The heat in Alabama was compared to the heat in North Africa, where at least it cooled off at night. Some mention was made of burying comrades at the cemetery at Fort McClellan. Little discussion of the war or politics was found in these censored editions.

Religious services and classes in American history and government were often offered to POWs in the various camps. Krammer (1979:79-113) notes that by mid-1944 German POWs had become a significant part of the labor pool at many of the Army posts where they were interned. Their entry into the workforce freed up an already diminished corps of American soldiers and support staff who were much needed elsewhere. While military installations had first claim on the POW's labor, they could also be contracted out to work in the agricultural and industrial sectors with local employers.

In their off hours and in jobs assigned to them on post, POWs created a substantial legacy at Fort McClellan in the realm of masonry and art as well as less visible improvements. Lane (1955:28) states that 200 prisoners were detailed daily for excavation, drainage and clearing operations on the main post, 170 were involved in food preparation, and others worked on vehicles. Another source states numerous examples of stonework including stone walls, chimneys, a patio, drainage ditches and landscaping as examples of POW handiwork (*Fort McClellan News*, July 17, 1981). A carved bar at the former Officers' Club, which has since been removed, and the unusual murals on the club's walls are also credited to POWs (Krammer 1979:261). Figure 9 has recent photographs some of the murals, and Figure 10 shows the POW cemetery and greenhouse in the camp as they existed during the war.

The POW murals in Building 51, Remington Hall, were covered by paneling in the 1950s and uncovered in the 1970s. After an unprofessional re-painting job in the 1970s, some recent conservation work has left the murals with less grime and residue (*The Birmingham News*, November 10, 1998). The 17 murals lining the upper five feet of the plaster walls present a variety of themes that appear mostly unrelated (Figure 9). They are clearly the work of several individuals, with some scenes showing more mastery over the art than others. On walls with doors, the painters framed their work around the door. Mixing twentieth century elements with traditional folkloric and

possibly Biblical images, the artists tried to maintain some consonance with the Mediterranean flavor of the building. There are violent scenes of bloody hand-to-hand combat between scantily-dressed men, peaceful scenes of birds and women in various poses, and pastoral scenes of day-to-day activities in European villages. Human hands and feet are sometimes grossly distorted. Artists' signatures have recently been discovered on some of the work.

The names of most of the men who contributed to the changing face of the fort are only known in the aggregate. Official lists noting POW's former livelihoods give some information. While a 1943 POW Occupational Summary noted the existence of four artists, three stonecutters, seven woodworkers, 13 stonemasons and one sculptor, it did not associate occupations with prisoners' names (Records of the Provost Marshal General). The camp at Fort McClellan not only acted as the processing center for all POWs in Alabama, but it was the last camp to be deactivated on April 10, 1946 (Walker 1988:5).

Nearly 500,000 United States soldiers were trained at Fort McClellan during World War II. When the war ended, the IRTC trained soldiers for occupation duty until November 1946. With the cessation of war with Japan, the number of trainees at Fort McClellan diminished and a corresponding reduction took place within the post complement. The lean years following World War I were repeated after the Second World War as well, when a two billion dollar budget cut was applied to Army appropriations. Fort McClellan was placed on inactive status on June 30, 1947, despite all the pressure Alabama politicians tried to apply. Alabama's Congressional representatives went so far as to invite Army Chief of Staff Dwight D. Eisenhower to review the situation. On his visit, Eisenhower would admit that McClellan was a jewel among Army installations, noting that sometimes jewels must go when bread and meat are necessary (Lane 1955:30).

### Evaluation of World War II Permanent Buildings and Structures

Large military training facilities, such as Fort McClellan, may be significant command construction installations within the context of World War II. The massive training and mobilization of personnel during wartime was a tremendously important event or pattern of events, potentially significant under National Register Criterion A.

However, the majority of structures associated with training activities were built using temporary construction, and thus few are associated with the permanent construction context that is the subject of this study. In addition, isolated or widely dispersed permanent buildings or structures typically do not convey the important association with mobilization training. Some of the infrastructure (such as roads, utility lines, and railroads) and landscape of Fort McClellan can be traced to World War II, but the overall layout was built on the earlier camp.

In general, World War II permanent construction first should be evaluated as potential National Register districts (Whelan et al. 1997:240). Fort McClellan was designed with interrelated component parts that functioned together to fulfill the purpose of the installation. The three districts that are already considered eligible each contain properties built prior to 1940 that were used during World War II. Based on the current study, no other areas on Fort McClellan had enough concentration of potentially eligible historic properties to delineate as additional districts. According to the *Historic Context for Department of Defense Facilities World War II Permanent Construction* (Whelan et al. 1997:241):

For properties to be individually eligible for listing in the National Register within the context of permanent World War II construction, they should (1) clearly and explicitly reflect the important mission of the installation; (2) be regarded as emblematic of the installation or of an aspect of the World War II military mission; or (3) represent particularly significant examples of a type of method of construction or the important work of a significant architect. Infrastructure and support buildings are not individually eligible unless they were: (1) the site of a particular event; (2) directly associated with a significant individual; or (3) of exceptional note as an example of architectural or engineering design.

In addition to possessing significance within a historic context, a property must also have integrity in order to be considered eligible. "Integrity is the ability of a property to convey its significance through the retention of the property's essential physical characteristics from its period of significance" (Whelan et al. 1997:245). Seven aspects of integrity include location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. The reasons why a property is important should be established first, then the qualities necessary to convey that significance can be identified.

Through modifications over the years, many temporary World War II structures have been reclassified in real property records as permanent construction. Buildings originally built as temporary should be evaluated within the historic context created for

temporary buildings for the purposes of their National Register eligibility. "Temporary buildings modified to such an extent that they are not longer classified as temporary are unlikely to retain sufficient integrity to convey their significance" (Whelan et al. 1997:247).

The following paragraphs discuss the districts and individual properties associated with World War II permanent construction at Fort McClellan.

### **Post Headquarters District**

The Post Headquarters District (see Figure 2) has already been determined eligible for the National Register under Criteria A and C with a period of significance from 1917 to 1945. Fort McClellan's significance in military history derives from its roles in mobilization and training for both world wars. It is also significant in community planning, architecture and landscape architecture as an important example of the application of community design principles to standardized military construction. The proposed district includes 60 contributing buildings and structures and 14 non-contributing buildings set on a landscaped hill. Original uses included officers' single-family housing, garages, bachelor officers' quarters, non-commissioned officers' housing, Post Headquarters, Silver Chapel, administration buildings, enlisted men's barracks, a theater, a fire station and a band stand. Most buildings are Spanish Colonial Revival in style with uniformity of color, materials and decorative features.

Those buildings constructed in the district during World War II include a contributing 1941 addition to Building 51, the former Officers' Club (Remington Hall). This building also contains significant World War II POW murals on the interior walls, which should be considered a significant element of Building 51. Building 66, constructed in 1941, is also within the Post Headquarters District, but it is listed as non-contributing due to extensive alterations. The remainder of the contributing buildings in the district were constructed prior to World War II, but are associated with that war through their continued use. These are buildings numbered 1-20, 51, 61, 63, 65, 67, 69, 81-90, 102-107, 141-144, 161-163, 170, 181-183, 185-190, and 196-198. Since this district has been documented in previous studies, it will not be discussed in detail here (see Reed et al. 1993b; Reed et al. 1996; Messick 1994a).

## **Industrial District**

The Industrial District (see Figure 2) has also been determined eligible for the National Register under Criteria A and C with a period of significance from 1917 to 1945. Its areas of significance include military history and community planning and development. The proposed district includes 18 contributing buildings and structures and three non-contributing buildings. This warehouse area is laid out in a linear fashion along a railroad spur. Most buildings have simple utilitarian styling with brick exteriors, stone or concrete trim and asphalt shingle roofing. Original uses include shops, warehouses, garages, sheds, stables, bakery, cold storage, laundry and coal trestle. The proposed Industrial District lists Building 246 (c. 1941) as contributing and Building T-245 (c. 1941) as non-contributing. All other contributing resources were constructed in the 1930s, including 216, 228, 229, 230, 234, 236, 237, 238, 240, 241, 241A, 241B, 242, 243, 244, 247 and 252. Since this district has also been documented in previous studies, it will not be discussed in detail here (see Reed et al. 1993b; Reed et al. 1996; Messick 1994b).

## **Ammunition Storage District**

Fort McClellan's ammunitions storage area has been extensively studied and documented (see Reed et al. 1994; Reed and Messick 1995; Reed 1995). The proposed Ammunition Storage District (see Figure 2) originally listed 15 ammunition storage buildings as contributing elements. Those constructed during World War II were igloos numbered 4408, 4409, 4410, 4411, 4412, 4413, 4414, 4415 and 4416. Five buildings in this district (4403, 4404, 4408, 4409 and 4414) were subsequently documented to HABS/HAER standards in anticipation of their scheduled demolition. The proposed district contains standard World War I field depot magazines, as well as earth-bermed igloos from World War II. Both sets of buildings provide information on the evolution and technology of safe ammunition storage. While igloos swiftly replaced earlier types, the materials used in their construction and the manner in which they were built varied. The Fort McClellan examples were constructed with corrugated steel plates and concrete, using engineering practices that were directly borrowed from early twentieth-century culvert or tunnel technology.

### **Buildings 130, 335, 336, 337 and 339**

These five buildings (130, 335, 336, 337, 339) are shown on current Fort McClellan real property lists as permanent construction. All were built in 1941-43, but further review of property cards on each building indicates that they were originally "temporary" World War II construction and their status was changed many years later. For this reason, they are mentioned here, but they are not subject to evaluation by this study. Building 130, Miller Sports Arena, was a temporary field house in 1941, and its status was changed in 1975 after an extensive renovation project. Buildings 335 and 337, vehicle maintenance shops built in 1941, were each changed to permanent status in 1991. Building 336, a 1941 boiler house, was also given permanent status in 1991. Another vehicle maintenance shop, Building 339, was constructed as temporary in 1943 and changed to permanent status in 1991. These are only included here because a cursory review of current real property records might incorrectly show them as World War II permanent construction.

### **Building 270**

Building 270 (Figure 11) was constructed in 1942 by the Corps of Engineers as a theater building with a stage for an outdoor amphitheater. The open-air amphitheater itself was built into the hillside utilizing masonry step-like seating with a capacity of 12,000 persons (see Figure 7). This seating was later removed, and pine trees are now growing on the hillside. The facility was named Monteith Amphitheater in honor of 1st Lt. Jimmie W. Monteith, Jr., a Congressional Medal of Honor recipient who was killed near Colle-sur-Mer, France, during the 1944 Normandy invasion. The former stage building is a single-story, rectangular, utilitarian-type structure measuring approximately 85 by 47 feet with partial remains of a semi-circular off-set stage on the east facade. The foundation is concrete and the walls are structural clay tile finished with stucco on the exterior. The flat roof is built-up asphalt and gravel with a stepped parapet. It has four exterior doors and several double-hung sash windows on three of the elevations.

The stage building was used for entertainment for troops stationed at Fort McClellan during World War II. Acts included Percy Grainger and his band, a Joe Lewis exhibition fight and several Broadway-type shows. The building originally consisted of dressing rooms, property rooms, an office and a partially-covered outdoor stage.



Major modifications in 1973 closed off the stage with an exterior wall on the east facade. The interior was reconfigured and used for a controlled-humidity warehouse. While the facility may have had some important historical associations, there is little remaining to convey the World War II use of this property. Because it lacks architectural integrity, it was recommended not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places in 1993, and that recommendation remains the same (see Reed et al. 1993b:247-248).

### **Building 1031**

Building 1031 (Figure 12) is the sentry guardhouse for the north gate (now Galloway Gate). Constructed in 1941 by the office of the Quartermaster General, it has been changed extensively since that date. It is a small rectangular building measuring approximately 16 by 8 feet. Utilitarian in style, the building has a flat roof with wide overhanging eaves. It is built on a concrete foundation with concrete columns and large plate glass windows on all sides. Footings and a retaining wall were constructed around the exterior in 1988. The exterior facade was changed in the 1990s by removing a brick wall that enclosed an interior lavatory, and opening a 360 degree view for the guardhouse. Galloway Gate was named in honor of Colonel Irene Galloway, fourth director of the Women's Army Corps. The small building itself is not significant for any important historical associations to persons or events. Due to loss of architectural integrity, it was not considered individually eligible for the National Register in the 1993 survey (Reed et al. 1993b:247-248). Even more changes have been made since that time, and the recommendation remains the same.

### **Building 1122**

Building 1122 (Figure 13) was constructed in 1941 as a battalion headquarters building. It is one story in height and originally measured 30 by 68 feet plus a 12 by 13 foot wing. The foundation is concrete, the walls are brick, and the side-gabled roof is supported by a wood truss system covered with wood sheathing and asphalt rolled roofing (originally asphalt shingles). It was converted for use as a credit union in the mid-1970s. At that time a rear addition was added and the interior plan was changed to accommodate banking services. The total square footage changed from 2196 to 3576. The original building followed the design of standardized plan 6344-108 by the Construction Division, Quartermaster Corps. This building is not significant for any

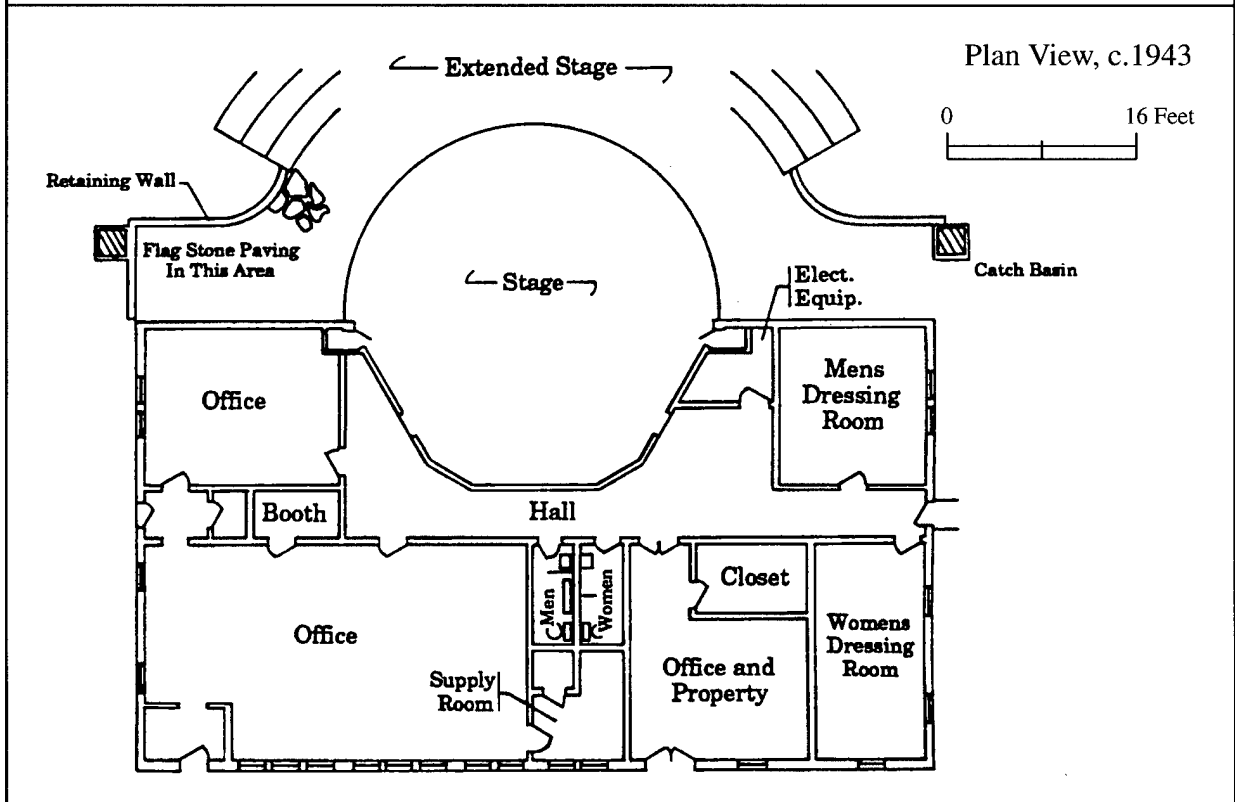
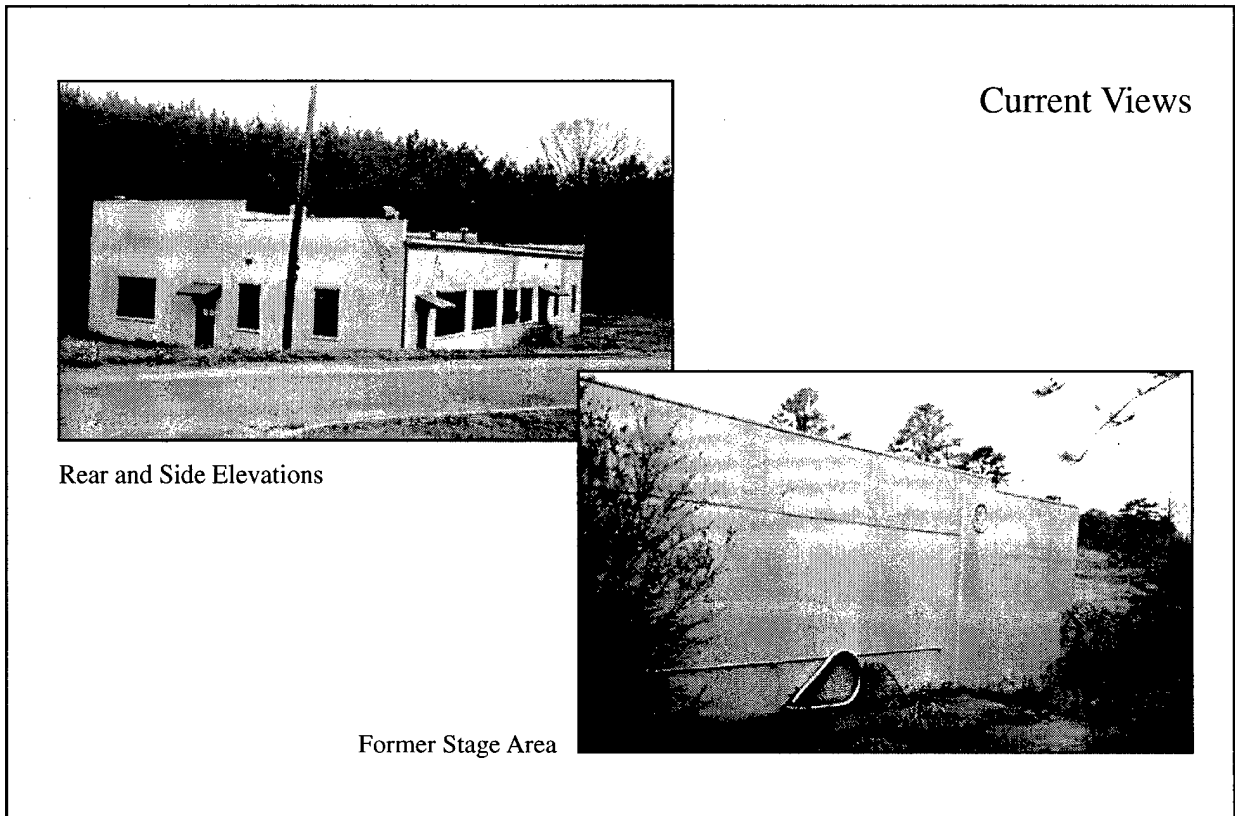


Figure 11  
Building 270, Photo and Plan

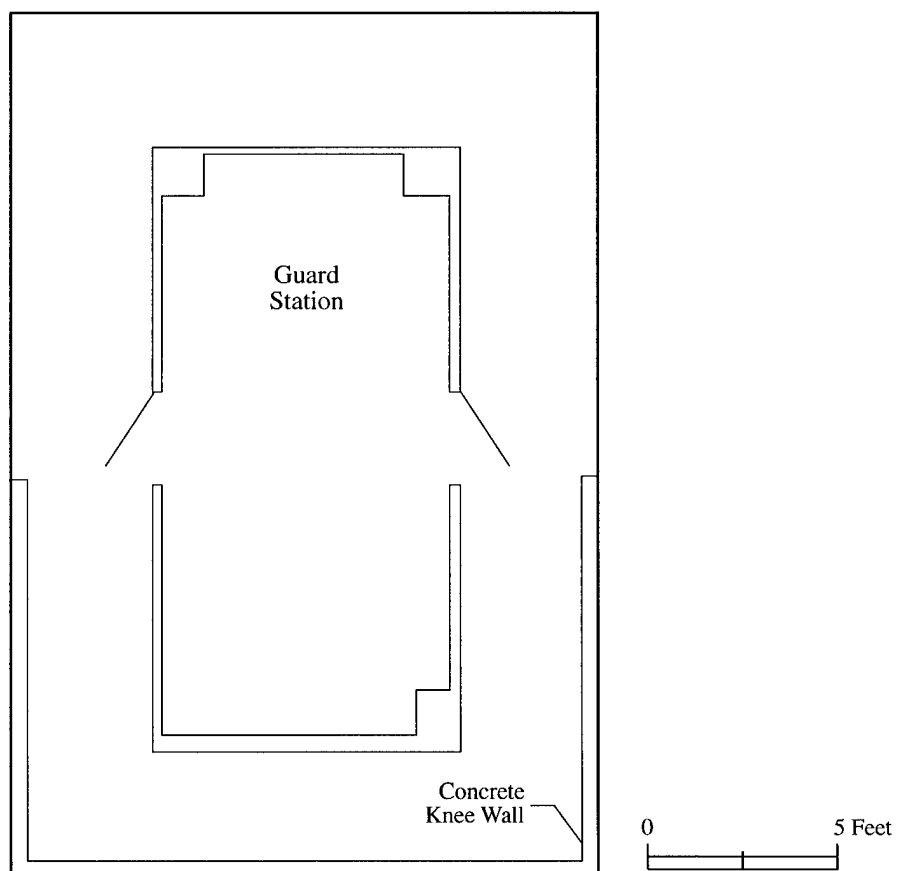


Figure 12  
Building 1031, Photo and Plan

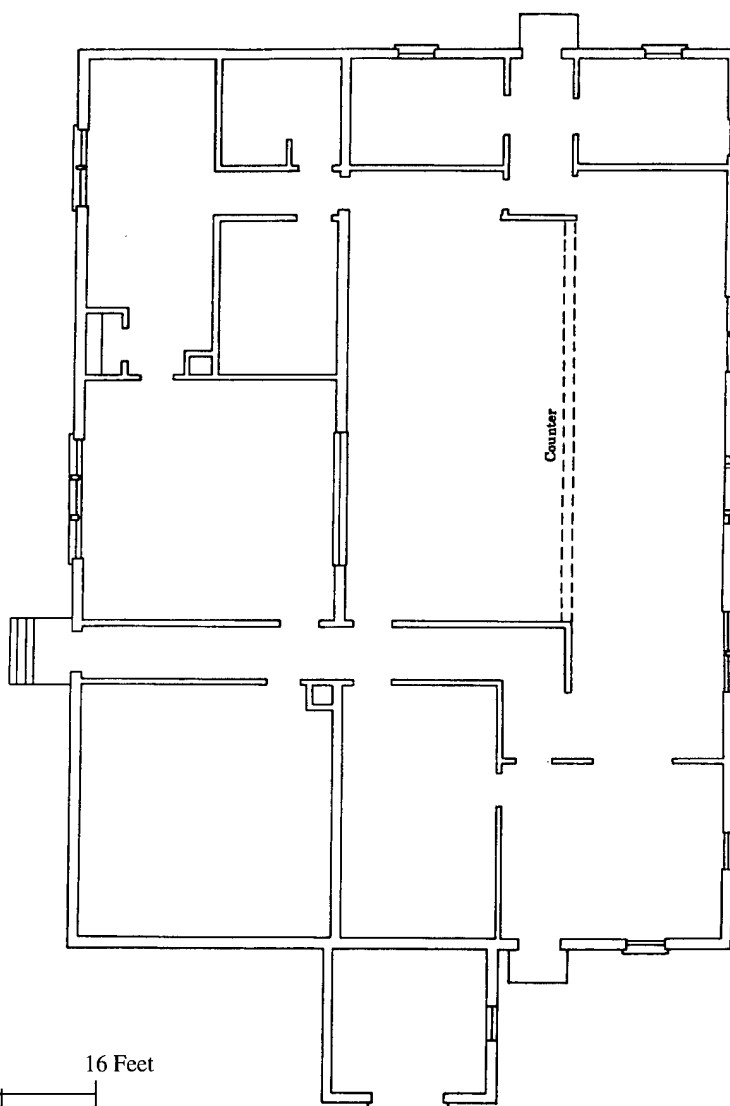


Figure 13  
Building 1122, Photo and Plan

important historical associations to persons or events. Since it no longer retains its architectural integrity, it was recommended not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places in the 1993 survey (Reed et al. 1993b:247-248), and that recommendation remains the same.

### **Building 1919**

Building 1919 (Figure 14) was constructed in May 1941 by the Quartermaster Corps under authorization from the National Industrial Recovery Act of 1933 for use by the National Guard. The utilitarian one-story building was once used as a Post Studio. It is rectangular in plan, measuring approximately 32 by 37 feet. It has a concrete foundation, concrete walls and employs a gabled wood truss roof system covered with wood sheathing and asphalt roofing material. The building's original interior is unknown, but it has been partitioned into small offices. The floors were tile at the time of the 1993 survey. Most major modifications were made in 1967 when it was changed to a military intelligence building. All the windows have been removed and are sealed closed. There is one small door which was re-aligned in 1967. This building is not significant for any important historical associations to persons or events. Due to a loss of architectural integrity, it was not considered individually eligible for the National Register in the 1993 survey (Reed et al. 1993b:247-248). That recommendation remains the same.

### **Building 1920**

Building 1920 (Figure 15) was constructed in 1941 by the Construction Division of the Quartermaster Corps as a permanent mess hall and kitchen for officers living and working in the cantonment area. It used standardized plan 6344-1111 at a cost of \$6,556. It has no decorative elements. The building is "T" shaped in plan and single story in height with intersecting gable roofs. The roof employs a wood truss system which is covered with wood sheathing and asphalt roofing materials. The foundation and walls are concrete. The interior is now divided into office space with wood and wallboard partitions. The floors are covered in wood and carpet. The building was extensively altered in 1967 to accommodate new office arrangements for a military intelligence building. The main portion measures 21 by 67 feet with a 21 by 31 foot extension and offsets of 4 by 6 feet. Many of the windows have been removed and sealed closed. This building is not significant for any important historical associations

with individuals or events. Due to a loss of architectural integrity, it was not considered individually eligible for the National Register in the 1993 survey (Reed et al. 1993b:247-248). That recommendation remains the same.

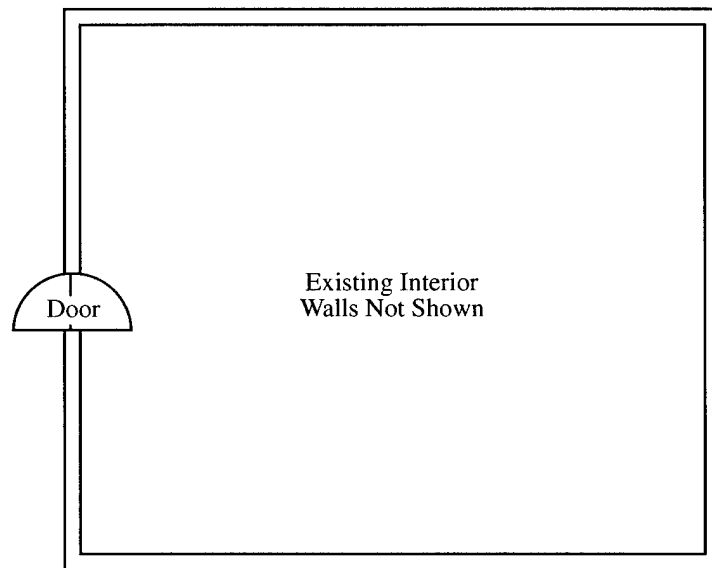
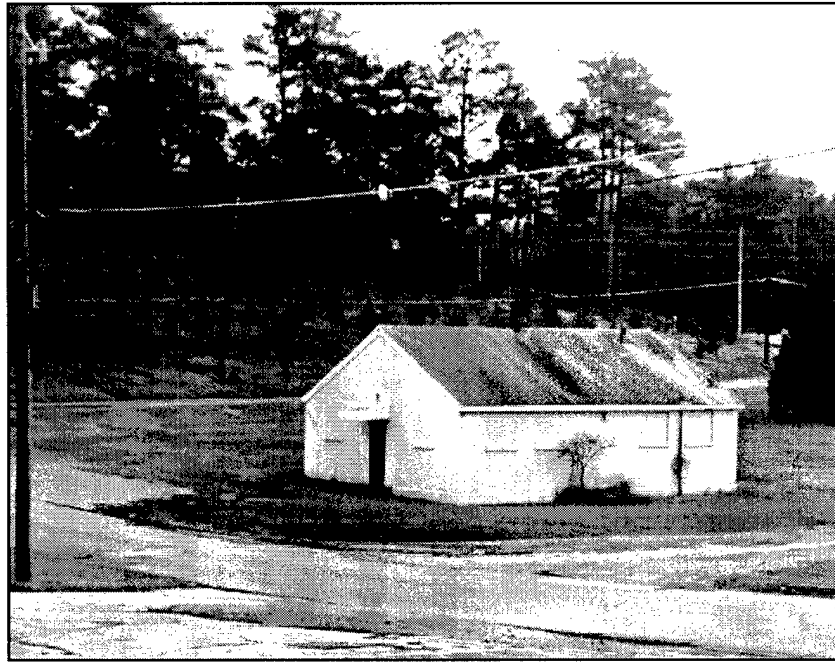
### **Building 2020**

Building 2020 (Figure 16) is similar to Building 1920, and was also constructed in 1941 by the Quartermaster Corps as a permanent officers' mess hall and kitchen. The utilitarian building used standardized plan 6344-1111 at a cost of \$6,556. The building is "T" shaped in plan and single story in height with intersecting gable roofs. The roof employs a wood truss system which is covered with wood sheathing and asphalt roofing materials. The foundation and walls are concrete. The original interior plan is not known, but it has now been divided into offices. Major alterations occurred in 1967 when the building was converted to an administration building. The total area was changed from 1672 to 1717 square feet, although exact alterations are not clear. All windows appear to have been removed and sealed closed. This building is not significant for any important historical associations with individual or events. Due to loss of architectural integrity, it was not considered individually eligible for the National Register in the 1993 survey (Reed et al. 1993b:247-248). That recommendation remains the same.

### **Building 2090**

Building 2090 (Figure 17) was completed in 1941 as a dispensary building for the National Guard. It followed the standardized Quartermaster plan 6366-100 with funds authorized under the National Recovery Act of 1933. The original construction cost was \$8,937. The utilitarian single-story rectangular building measures approximately 66 by 26 feet. The foundation and walls are of reinforced concrete. The lateral gable roof is supported by a wood truss system covered with wood sheathing and asphalt roofing materials. The fenestration is unchanged with 19 six-over-six double-hung wood-frame windows and four doors. The building was originally heated with coal, and one exterior brick chimney remains. The only major alterations are to the interior offices, which consist of linoleum tile floors, drywall partitions, and a dropped acoustic tile ceiling. In 1988 it was changed to a general purpose administration building.

While this building retains enough architectural integrity to potentially be eligible for the National Register, it must first be evaluated for significance. Absent a clear



0 24 Feet

A scale bar with a horizontal line and vertical tick marks at the ends and midpoint. The text "0" is at the left end and "24 Feet" is at the right end.

Figure 14  
Building 1919, Photo and Plan

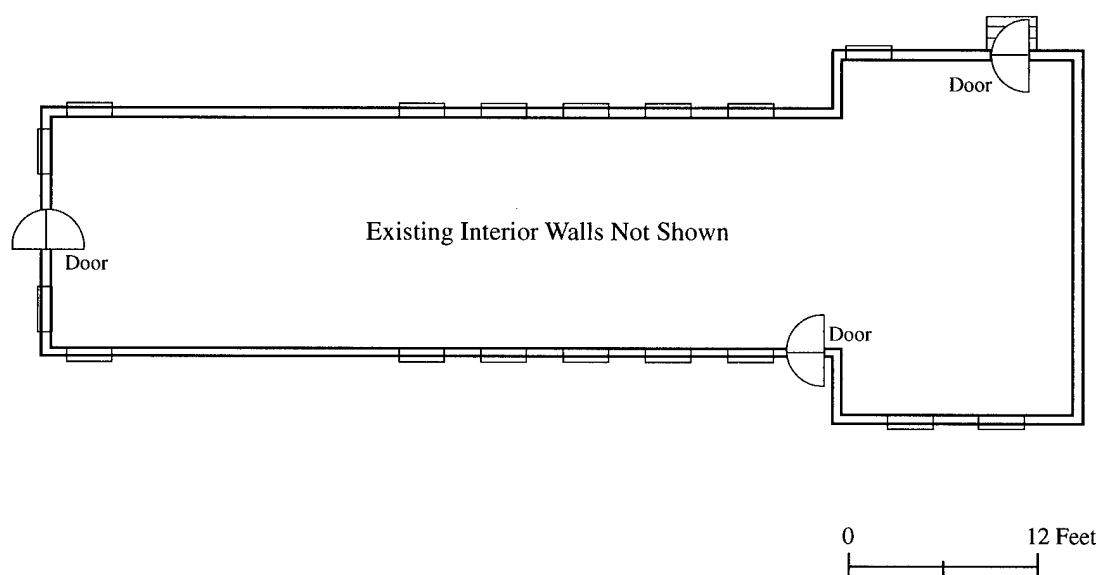


Figure 15  
Building 1920, Photo and Plan



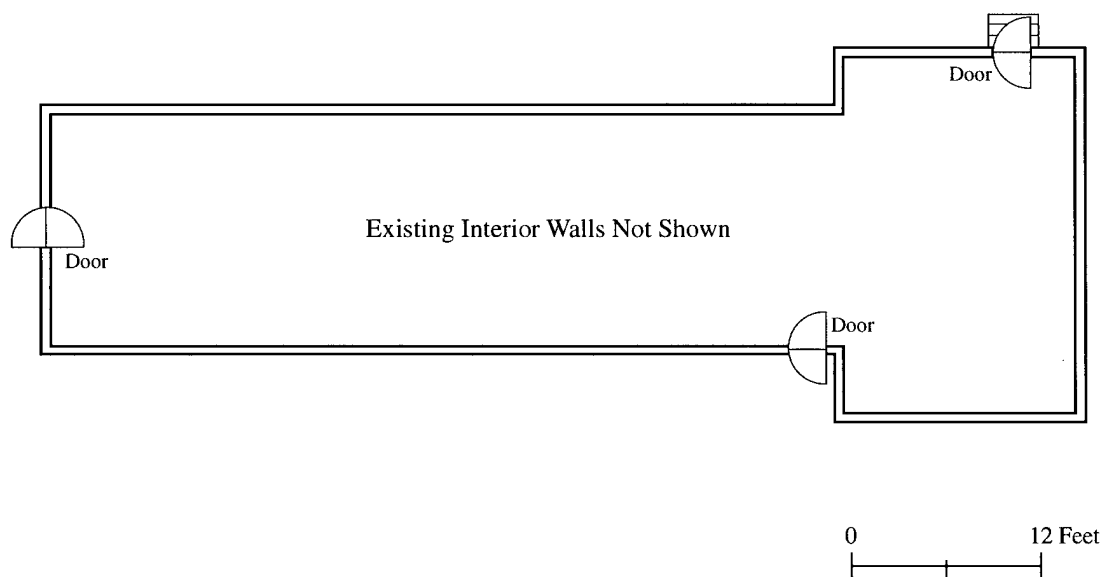
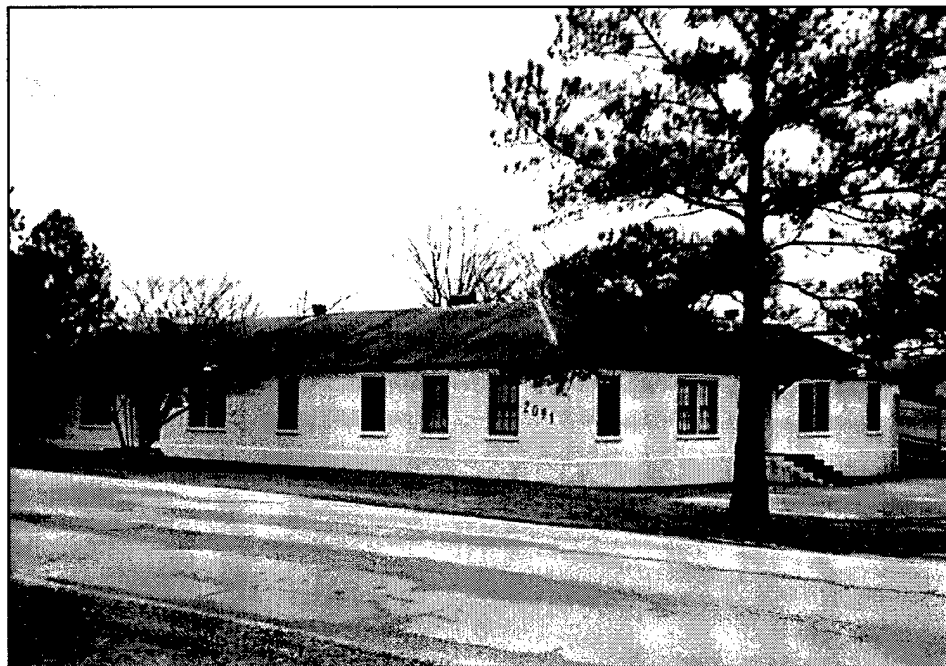


Figure 16  
Building 2020, Photo and Plan



Building 2090



Building 2091

Figure 17  
Views of Buildings 2090 and 2091

connection to any surrounding district, it must be shown that an infrastructure or support building was either (1) associated with a particular event; (2) directly associated with a significant individual; or (3) of exceptional note as an example of architectural or engineering design (see Whelan et al. 1997:241). Since none of these criteria appear to apply to Building 2090, it is recommended not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. This is the same recommendation made in the 1993 survey (Reed et al. 1993b:247-248).

### **Building 2091**

Building 2091 (Figure 17) was originally built in 1941 by the Construction Division of the Quartermaster Corps as a camp headquarters building for the National Guard. It was authorized under the National Recovery Act of 1933. The single-story utilitarian building used standardized plan 5344-109 at a cost of \$13,617. It is "L" shaped in plan and measures 30 by 90 feet with a 30-by-38-foot wing. The foundation and walls are concrete. The gable roof is supported by a wood truss system covered with wood sheathing and asphalt roofing materials. Original six-over-six double-hung wood sash windows remain. Major modifications were made to the interior in 1974. The present interior consists of linoleum tile floors, drywall partitions and a dropped acoustic tile ceiling. It became an exchange service outlet in 1986, an adjunct to the main Post Exchange.

While the exterior of this building retains enough architectural integrity to potentially be eligible for the National Register, it must first be evaluated for significance. Like Building 2090, it is not part of an eligible historic district. This support building was also not associated with a particular significant event; directly associated with a significant individual; or of exceptional note as an example of architectural or engineering design (see Whelan et al. 1997:241). It is therefore recommended not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. This is the same recommendation made in the 1993 survey (Reed et al. 1993b:247-248).

### **German-Italian Memorial Cemetery**

The small German-Italian Memorial Cemetery has been assigned real property number 3430. Located along Baker Road, it contains simple white marble headstones for 29 graves, including 26 Germans and 3 Italians (Figure 18). These men all died during their World War II internment as prisoners of war, but no known records exist

as to their exact cause of death. Many of the graves are of men who had been imprisoned in other POW camp locations in Alabama (Aliceville), Mississippi (McCain and Como), Tennessee (Memphis), and Georgia (Rome). Most headstones contain name, military rank, nationality and date of death. Some also have a black "iron cross" symbol above the name. Dates on the graves range from mid-1943 to late-1945. The cemetery boundary is marked with a low concrete-block retaining wall. Early photos show a waist-high wooden fence around the cemetery. Outside the wall is a stone and concrete sign identifying the "German Italian Memorial Cemetery." A concrete Iron Cross monument on a rough stone foundation stands near the rear of the cemetery. This is a replacement (date unknown) for a similar one that was erected when the cemetery initially opened.

Outside the entrance to the cemetery there is also a concrete slab on the ground decorated with an eagle and the number "2" in a circle under the eagle's feet. This slab was originally upright at another location and was moved to the cemetery after 1981. That was the year an 11-year-old boy discovered a German document in a buried Nehi bottle that became exposed to the surface after the monument overturned near his playground. An English translation of the document reads: "USA, 3 September 1943, SFC Hoerter, Sgt. Kuther, Sgt. Klose and PFC Buettner created this monument for the 2nd Prisoner of War Company, Fort McClellan, Alabama, USA. It shall serve as a memorial and keep our faith in our beloved German homeland imperturbable during the time we have to stay here" (*The Anniston Star*, March 25, 1981). It was signed by Robert Heber, Master Sergeant and acting German company commander. The letter was turned over to post authorities for preservation.

The cemetery was once part of the 3,000-man POW camp at Fort McClellan, and is virtually the only remaining visible reminder of that camp. The burial of men from other camps probably means that McClellan's cemetery was used as a regional one. Normally a cemetery is not eligible for the National Register, except under special circumstances. One way it may be considered is if it derives its significance from "association with historic events." A POW cemetery is a very unusual historic resource in Alabama and the southeast, especially since there are few above-ground physical remains of the large POW camp at Fort McClellan and the other three camps in Alabama. This was an important part of McClellan's World War II history, and the cemetery is therefore recommended as eligible for the National Register under Criterion A (events that are associated with broad patterns of our history) and

Criterion Consideration D (exceptions for cemeteries that illustrate important events) with a statewide level of significance.

### **World War II Bridges**

Fort McClellan has 15 bridges that were constructed during World War II (Figures 19-23). Eleven vehicle and foot bridges are numbered 4302, 4303, 4305, 4306, 4314, 4318, 4319, 4331, 4342, 4352 and 4363. Four railroad bridges are numbered 4702, 4703, 4705, and 4706. Historical data on these bridges is limited. No as-builts or War Department Quartermaster Corps forms were found on these structures. According to real property records, all were constructed in 1941, except Bridge 4363 which was built in 1942. They all cross Cane Creek or its tributaries, and most are small single- or double-chamber bridges with concrete guard rails. Most appear to use standardized construction. Three of the bridges make use of hand-crafted stone masonry on some part of the bridge. They are Bridge 4342, which is on the boundary of the Industrial District, and Bridges 4318 and 4319.

**Bridges 4302 and 4314** are small vehicle bridges with concrete abutments, open concrete guard rails, and a flat sub-structure resting only on the abutments. **Bridges 4303 and 4306** are similar except that the guard rails are solid concrete. **Bridge 4305** is a concrete vehicle bridge with double-arched solid spandrels. Vehicle **Bridges 4318 and 4319** are single-arched structures with half-round corrugated metal liner plates underneath. Both have roughly-coursed rubble stone work in the concrete abutments and spandrels. A low side-wall along the roadway is capped with concrete coping. **Bridge 4331** is a concrete foot bridge over the golf course. It has two arched openings and two rectangular openings, all with closed spandrels. **Bridge 4342** is a single-arched concrete-and-stone foot bridge on the edge of the Industrial District. It is the most elaborate of all the bridges with uncoursed stone work, arched stone side-rails capped in concrete, and circular cut-outs along the side-rails and end-pillars. The creek in this area has been channeled and lined with similar stone work. Vehicle **Bridges 4352 and 4363** are double-arched solid-spandrel concrete structures with corrugated metal liner plates underneath.

**Bridge 4702 and 4703** are railroad bridges supported on reinforced concrete piers. **Bridge 4705** is a former railroad bridge that is now a foot bridge on the golf course. It is a double bridge with one section formed by five closed-spandrel concrete

arches and one section formed by four rectangular openings with a low guard rail above. **Bridge 4706** is a very small railroad bridge supported by metal I-beams on concrete abutments.

It is recommended that one of the above bridges is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. **Bridge 4342** is the most architecturally exceptional of all the bridges. Although little is known of who constructed its stone work, it clearly involved a labor-intensive manual effort. It is on the boundary of the Industrial District and should be included as a contributing resource in that district. This bridge meets National Register Criterion C for its workmanship and artistic value in a time of war when few efforts were made to embellish many buildings or structures.

The remaining bridges are recommended as not eligible for the National Register because they are standardized examples of infrastructure that have no particular significance related to any historical event or person, and they are also not of exceptional note as examples of architectural or engineering design (see Whelan et al. 1997:241). While two of the bridges (**4318** and **4319**) do display some handcrafted masonry work, this is crudely executed and not considered significant. Since they are not within the boundaries of an eligible historic district, they must be evaluated as individual structures. These bridges do not meet the National Register criteria for individual eligibility.

Figure 24 illustrates the location of the 15 bridges. Figure 25 shows the location of the other previously-discussed World War II properties, as well as Cold War facilities which will be discussed in the following chapter.



Figure 18  
German Italian Memorial Cemetery



Bridge 4302



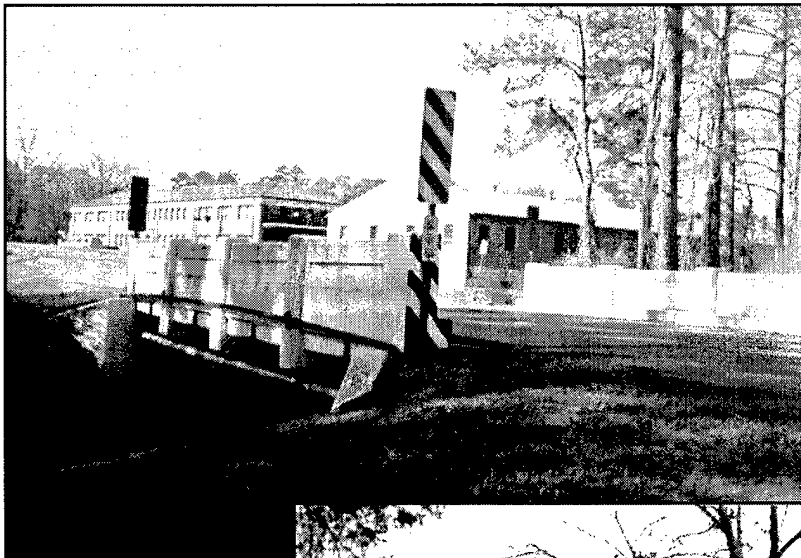
Bridge 4303



Bridge 4305

Figure 19  
Photos of Bridges 4302, 4303, and 4305





Bridge 4306



Bridge 4314



Bridge 4318

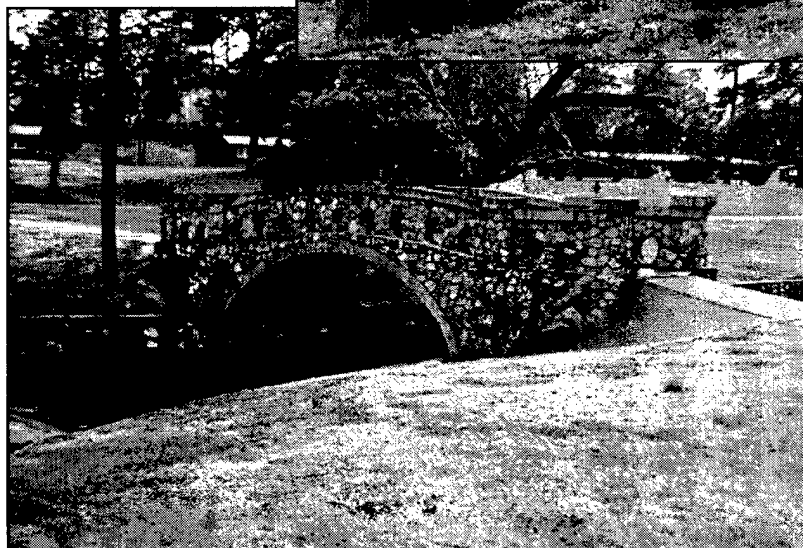
Figure 20  
Photos of Bridges 4306, 4314, and 4318



Bridge 4319



Bridge 4331

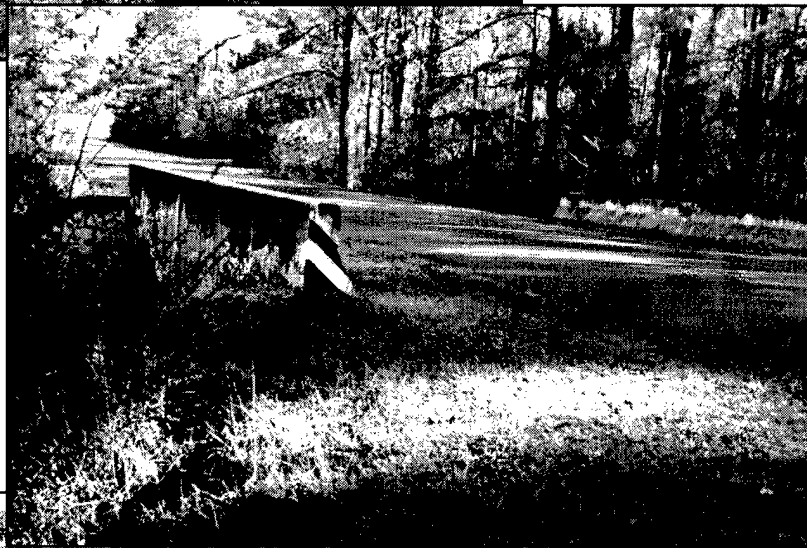


Bridge 4342

Figure 21  
Photos of Bridges 4319, 4331, and 4342



Bridge 4352

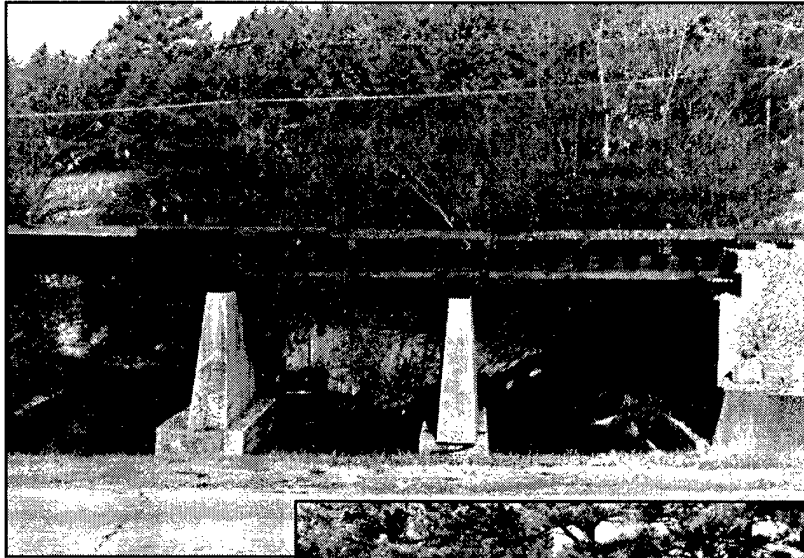


Bridge 4363



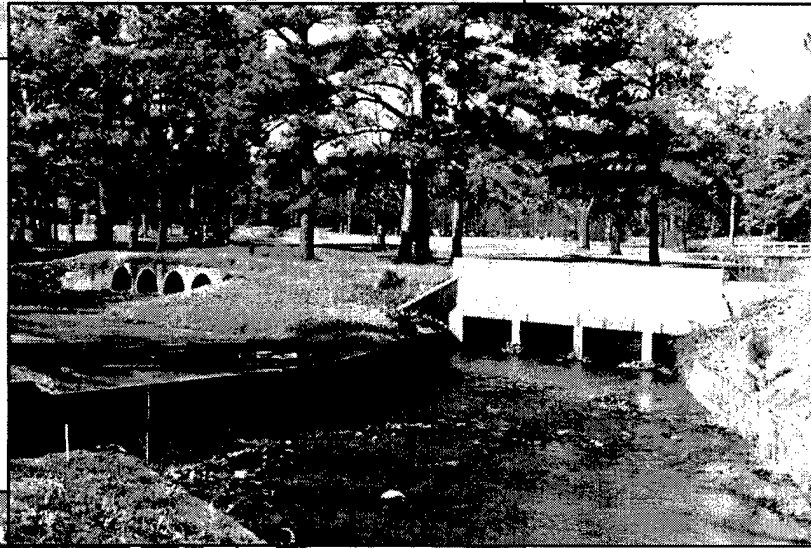
Bridge 4702

Figure 22  
Photos of Bridges 4352, 4363, and 4702



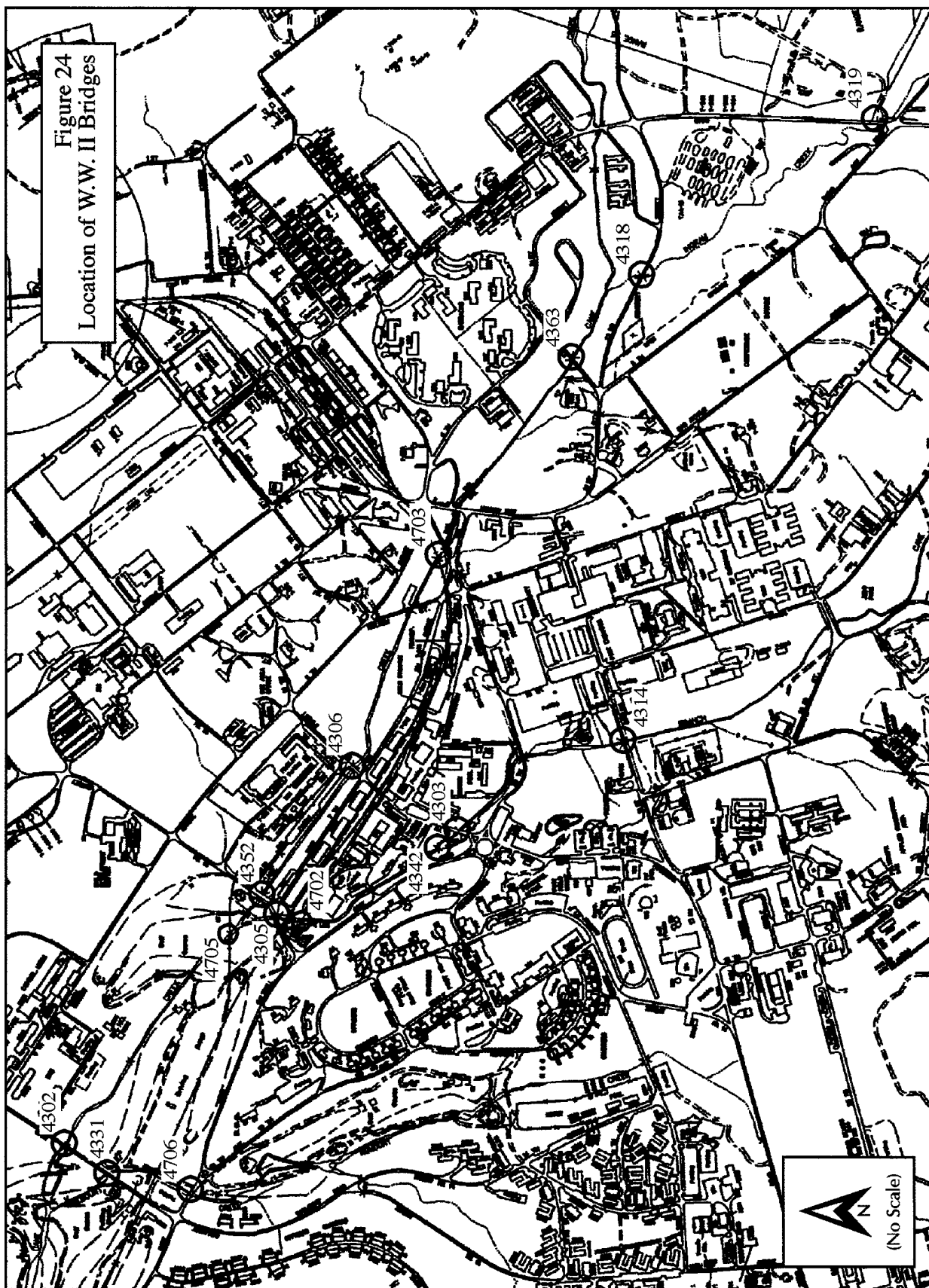
Bridge 4703

Bridge 4705



Bridge 4406

Figure 23  
Photos of Bridges 4703, 4705, and 4406







Location Map of Miscellaneous W.



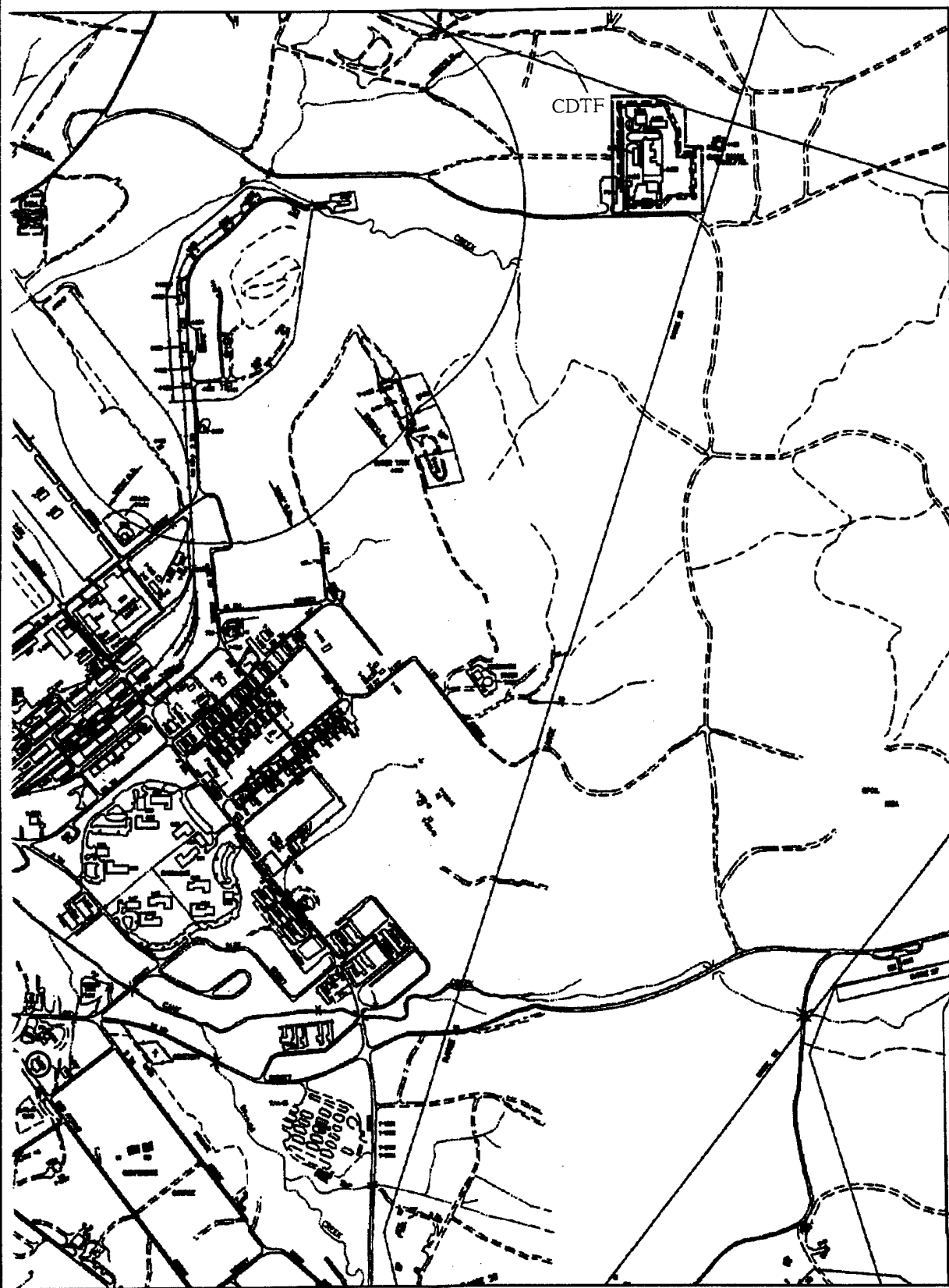


Figure 25  
Location Map of Miscellaneous W.W. II and Cold War Properties



## IV. Cold War Overview and Evaluation

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### Cold War Era Historic Context

Following World War II Fort McClellan was used as a demobilization center until June 1947 when it was deactivated. The fort remained on inactive status from 1947 to 1950. During that time only a handful of military personnel were assigned to maintain the extensive grounds and numerous buildings which soon became overgrown or fell into disrepair. While increasing tensions with the Soviet Union had created an international situation that would later be known as the Cold War, the drive for economy in defense spending had reduced the Army's strength and materiel readiness by the end of the 1940s (Lavin 1988:20). Fort McClellan was restored to active status under the leadership of Brigadier General Theodore R. Wessels. The idea initially was to use the fort for National Guard training once again, and to that end the 44th Engineer Construction Battalion from Fort Bragg, North Carolina, was ordered to McClellan to begin the preparations.

The facilities were rehabilitated for the 1950 summer encampment of the 31st National Guard Division (the Dixie Division) from Alabama and Mississippi. With the onset of hostilities in Korea, the 44th Battalion was ordered to the Far East Command in August of 1950 before they had completed their mission at Fort McClellan. The job then fell into the hands of the post commander, General Wessels, an expert on landscaping. With 10 million dollars in funding, Wessels tackled the job with enthusiasm, restoring the parade grounds, ranges and lawns, and earning him the sobriquet, "Father of the New Fort McClellan" (Lane 1955:31). Fort McClellan, along with Army installations all over the United States, saw new activity as a result of the conflict in Korea. Training facilities were once again filled with troops preparing for combat assignments.

After 1950 Fort McClellan was used for extensive National Guard training. During the summers of 1951 and 1952, three National Guard Divisions, the 30th (North Carolina-Tennessee), the 48th (Georgia-Florida), and the 51st (Florida-South Carolina), took their annual two-week training at Fort McClellan, as did over 40 Organized

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Reserve Corps (ORC) units. Consisting chiefly of small medical, ordnance and transportation companies, these units concentrated their efforts on specialist training and arms qualification. Chemical ROTC units and Women's Army Corps reservists also trained at Fort McClellan during the summers that followed.

Training divisions and smaller special units of the seven southern states within the Third Army area continued to train with the full support of the post complement and facilities. The first week was normally spent in tented encampments on the fort, and the major portion of the second week was spent in the field. The various ranges, including the extensive Pelham Range, afforded training for every type of simulated combat terrain. National Guard and Reserve training remained an important part of Fort McClellan's mission throughout the years of the Cold War.

Brigadier General T. F. Wessels retired from the Army in May 1952 and was succeeded as Post Commander by Brigadier General Harry B. Sherman. In 1951 the Army had chosen Fort McClellan to host the Chemical Corps School, later styled the U.S. Army Chemical Center and School. The school first occupied Building 141 in the post headquarters area. Ten million dollars in funding was appropriated to build new facilities which were completed in 1954. Another newcomer in the 1950s, the Women's Army Corps Center and School was transferred from Fort Lee, Virginia, in 1954. The WAC Center acted as the receiving, processing and training center for all female volunteers to its service. Its new facilities were located near Fort McClellan's north gate. The Chemical School and the WAC Center and their facilities will be discussed in greater detail in following sections of this report.

In 1953 the post had three libraries, four motion picture theaters, an outdoor amphitheater, an outdoor playhouse, three service clubs, four swimming pools, a large sports arena, a gymnasium, a golf course, and numerous facilities for other sports (*The Army Post* 1953:14-15). Special services programs sponsored dances, picnics, and various musical and other entertainment shows. USO groups also sponsored programs on post. Boating and fishing were available at Reilly Lake on the main post and at Sherman Lake in Pelham Range.

New facilities for the Post Engineers (Building 215 and associated structures) were completed in 1955 at a cost of \$240,000. Quintard Terrace Apartments, a Wherry housing project completed at a cost of 1.2 million dollars, opened for residency by post

personnel in February 1955 (Lane 1955:36). This was followed by extensive construction of housing and other facilities in the late 1950s. Between 1955 and 1960, over 200 new units of family housing were constructed on Fort McClellan. The national Wherry Housing program was designed to bring together public and private industry to improve military family housing. It allowed private sponsors to lease property on military reservations for a nominal fee and then construct, operate, and maintain residential developments at reasonable costs. A subsequent housing program named the Capehart program also allowed private sponsors to build military family housing, but they did not operate or maintain it. Both Wherry and Capehart housing areas were constructed at Fort McClellan. By 1965 there were 587 individual housing units administered as public quarters on post.

In 1962 the three-story 61,000-square-foot Noble Army Hospital (Building 292) was added as a permanent medical center. This replaced the wood structures of earlier hospitals, including a specialized facility for treatment of tuberculosis and other chest diseases which had closed in the mid-1950s. The new 100-bed hospital boasted reinforced concrete, frame, and masonry unit walls with red brick facing, central air-conditioning, an emergency room, a modern intercom system, and television sets in all rooms (*The Anniston Star*, May 4, 1962). Medical services included both an Internal Medicine Section and a Pediatric Section with inpatient and outpatient care for military personnel and their dependents. This hospital has expanded and remained in use until the present.

The Officer Evaluation Center was established at Fort McClellan as a Class II activity of the Office of Personnel Operations in 1962. The Army Combat Developments Command Chemical-Biological-Radiological Agency also arrived at Fort McClellan in 1962. Its principal activities were preparing combat development studies, material objectives, material requirements, and operations research studies; planning for, monitoring, and reporting on troop tests and field experiments; participating in war games; and preparing field manuals and tables of organization and equipment for publication by the Army. It occupied all of Building 3191 except part of the first floor, and its Organization and Doctrine Directorate occupied space in the main Chemical School facility (Building 3181).

President Kennedy's commitment to a "flexible response" strategy that emphasized conventional forces provided an increased role for the Army in United

States defense policy. During the Eisenhower years, the Air Force had received the bulk of military appropriations due to the policy of reliance on strategic nuclear weapons. This changed in the 1960s when the United States became increasingly committed to the defense of the South Vietnamese government, including the large-scale deployment of ground combat forces. The philosophy behind the build-up was an effort to contain the spread of global communism (Lavin 1998:23,36). Fort McClellan played a major role in this conflict. As the strength of the Army increased, training programs were expanded in order to provide for the significant mobilization of ground forces in Vietnam.

To meet requirements for the Vietnam War, an Advanced Individual Training (AIT) Infantry Brigade was established at the fort in 1966. Its mission was to qualify soldiers to "perform duties as a light weapons infantryman or indirect fire crewman in a unit engaged in or supporting combat operations" (*Fort McClellan News*, June 13, 1967). Men who had been in the Army for eight or nine weeks were trained in combat infantry skills in the eight-week course. Part of the training included a three-day field exercise at Pelham Range in a mock-up of a Vietnamese village that included realistic settings complete with underground tunnels. There the infantry trainees conducted operations against "VC" aggressors, defended their own base camp, and practiced searching Vietnamese villages and base camps. This mock village is no longer extant. Soldiers left the AIT to attend Officer Candidate School, return to National Guard or Reserve units, or to take their place in regular infantry units. After training more than 30,000 men, the brigade was deactivated in 1970.

The Third Army NCO Academy graduated more than 8,000 students while it operated between 1967 and 1972. It offered six-week basic and senior courses, graduating approximately 85 non-commissioned officers at six week intervals (*Fort McClellan News*, July 18, 1967). Military needs had changed by 1973 with the beginning of the all-volunteer Army and agreements for withdrawal of the remaining U. S. forces in Vietnam.

A significant change in the Army's structure affected Fort McClellan in 1973 when the Army eliminated the Continental Army Command (CONARC) and replaced it with two new commands, Forces Command (FORSCOM) and Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC). TRADOC's task of training both individual soldiers and units made it responsible for all of the Army's branch schools. This included the task of

writing doctrine about how Army units should train. New training programs in the late 1970s emphasized specific tasks. The Army also increased its use of technology, both to add realism and minimize costs (Lavin 1998:53). TRADOC installations such as Fort McClellan typically maintained large administrative and classroom buildings supported by smaller instructional and administrative buildings, as well as facilities for field training tailored to the specific branch or activity. These types of properties were all present within the various specialized schools that utilized Fort McClellan during the Cold War.

Both the U.S. Army Chemical Center and School and the WAC Center were closed at Fort McClellan in the 1970s. The Chemical School left in 1973 to be merged with the Ordnance Corps in Aberdeen, Maryland. The WAC Center and School were closed in 1978 due to the integration of women into co-ed training with men. Once again, Alabama politicians began to petition Washington for the fort to remain open and they were once again successful. The Army moved the Military Police School to Fort McClellan from Fort Gordon in 1975, and the U.S. Army Chemical School was reopened in 1980 to give Fort McClellan a major training mission (Entire 1983:86-88). In 1987 the Chemical Decontamination Training Facility (CDTF) became operational for training. This unique facility provided an indoor environment for training with live chemical agents. The need for this facility was a direct response to intelligence reports of increased Soviet chemical warfare capabilities.

Throughout its Cold War history, the Army successfully adapted to its changing circumstances. By the end of the 1980s, world political events saw a weakened Soviet Union, a dissolving Warsaw Pact alliance, and finally the collapse of the Soviet block. "Ultimately, the success of the U.S. Army and the other noncommunist military forces can be judged by the fact that the free world prevailed in the Cold War without any overt hostilities with Soviet forces" (Lavin 1998:62). It was in this climate that Congress began considering closing U.S. military installations in the late 1980s. Fort McClellan was placed on Pentagon-recommended closure lists, but survived several rounds of base closure hearings in the early 1990s. Finally in 1995 the Base Realignment and Closure Commission (BRAC) voted to close Fort McClellan. After a history spanning most of the twentieth century, the "military showplace of the South" was scheduled to close on September 30, 1999.

The following three sections will establish a more detailed historic context for the Women's Army Corps, the Chemical Corps School and the Military Police School at Fort McClellan. The last section will include evaluations of buildings and structures for Cold War significance.

### **The Women's Army Corps Center and School (1954-1978)**

In 1950 the Army initiated action to establish a permanent center for the Women's Army Corps (WAC). During the first years of its existence the WAC had opened five different training centers. WAC enlistees had been training at Fort Lee, Virginia since 1948 when women were first made a part of the regular and reserve elements of the military establishment. Women had previously served in World War II as part of the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps (WAAC) and the WAC (after 1943), but their authorized numbers were greatly reduced when the war ended. Following favorable Congressional action, construction began in November 1952 for the permanent WAC Center at Fort McClellan. The contractor was the Bruce Construction Company of Miami, Florida, and initial construction costs totaled 10.5 million dollars (Morden 1990:146). Strikes, bad weather, and shortages of building supplies caused by the Korean War slowed construction.

The first trainees arrived at Fort McClellan on June 25, 1954, and the first 200-woman platoon to receive all its training at the new center was graduated on August 26. The WAC facilities were officially dedicated at ceremonies held on September 27, 1954. A bronze dedication plaque was unveiled on this occasion by Army chief of staff General Matthew B. Ridgway, who had initiated the action to establish a permanent installation for the corps, and Colonel Irene Galloway, director of the Women's Army Corps. The plaque, now set in a pillar of Alabama marble on a fieldstone base, is presently located in the landscaped area known as WAC Memorial Triangle. The city of Anniston welcomed the WAC enlistees with banners and placards, newspaper ads, and special WAC activities.

Army regulations directed the mission of the Women's Army Corps, which was to constitute a peacetime establishment of trained military women who would provide a nucleus for a rapid expansion in the event of a national emergency (U.S. Army Women's Army Corps School and Center 1975:24). The personnel needs of an expanded military force were a direct result of the conflict in Korea and the increasing

tensions of the Cold War. Accepting women as part of a force to stem communist aggression was a radical idea for its time (Lavin 1998:24). The WAC Center was the receiving, processing, and training center for all women who volunteered for the Army. Here the enlistee received eight weeks of basic training in Army doctrine, modified to what was then considered appropriate for women in the service. After basic training the enlisted women were sent to field WAC detachments or to Army schools for further training in specialized fields. The WAC School operated a clerical training division for enlisted women, an officer candidate course, an officers' basic course, and an officers' advanced course.

The WAC facilities consisted of two major sections -- the WAC Center which included the Training Battalion area, and the WAC School which included the Headquarters and Headquarters Company area. Figure 26 illustrates these facilities as they existed in the mid-1950s. Enlistees reported to the Headquarters and Receiving Company (Building 2220) for processing, and then they were assigned to one of four companies in the battalion to begin eight weeks of basic training. In 1954 the battalion area included four training barracks and two mess halls (Buildings 2202 and 2203). Each of the three-story barracks had a capacity of 224 women. Building 2221 housed "A" Company; 2223 housed "B" Company; 2224 housed "C" Company, and 2225 housed "D" Company. Barrack 2227 was reserved for the 14th Army WAC Band, including quarters and rehearsal rooms. A clothing issue warehouse (2299) and a basic battalion school building with 25 classrooms and offices (Building 2281) were the major buildings to complete this training area. A 1965 expansion of Building 2281 (re-named Munson Hall) also included a new gymnasium and the Edith Nourse Rogers Museum, the first official museum of the WAC. A WAC dispensary (Building 2290) was located on Galloway Road. Building 2213, now the post's Child Development Center, was originally a WAC Service Club.

The WAC Center Headquarters was located in Building 1060 on a hill near the North Gate (now Galloway Gate). It held offices for the commander and her immediate staff, a 256-seat auditorium, message center, and printing shop. Headquarters (Building 1020) and Headquarters Company (Building 1021) housed over 200 permanent WAC personnel assigned to jobs throughout the WAC Center and Fort McClellan. This area also included a mess hall (Building 1001) and two other buildings. Building 1022 was a Clerical Training Company, and Building 1023 was the Officers' Training Detachment. The WAC School was in Building 1081 (named Faith Hall in 1963)





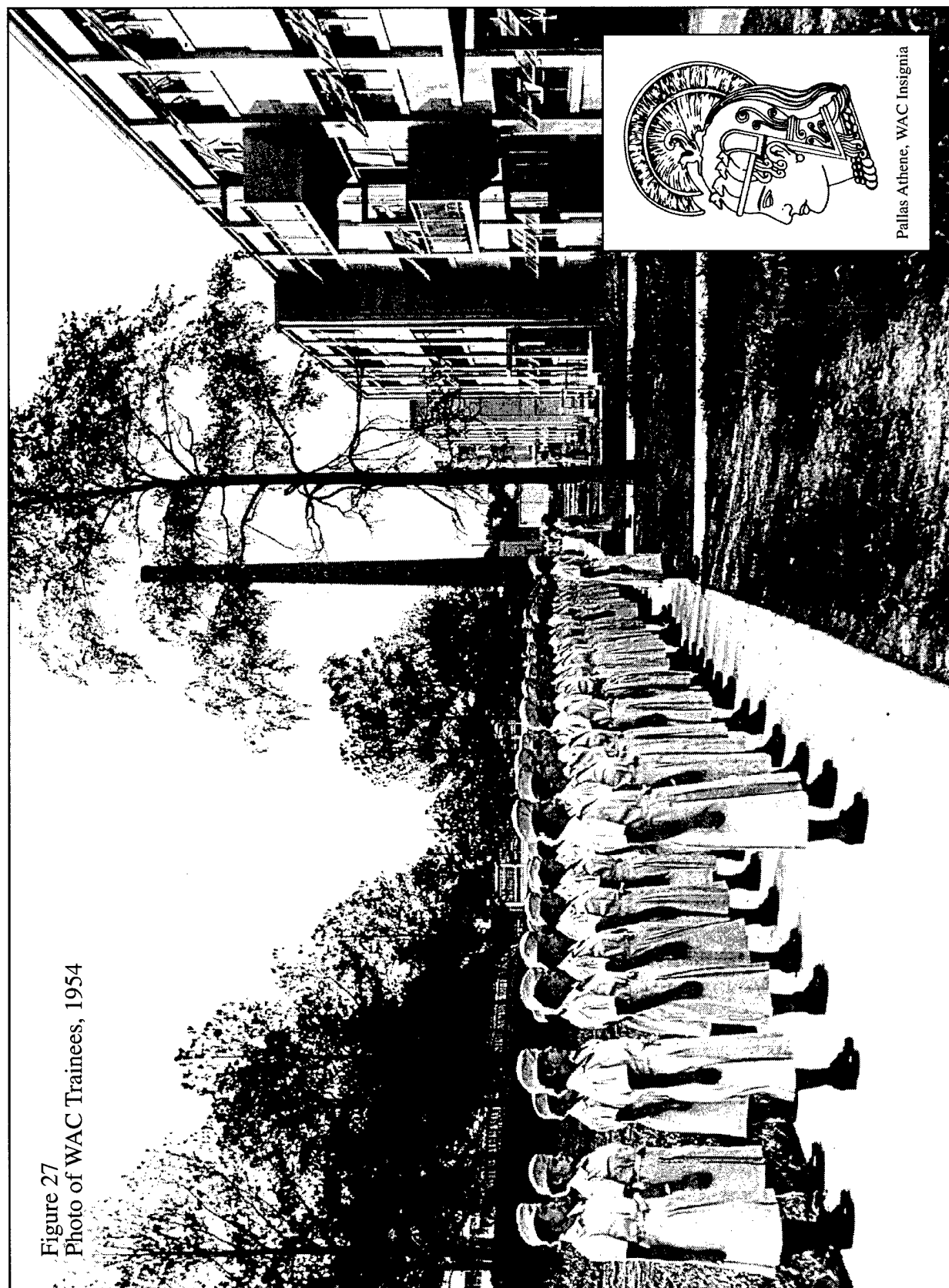
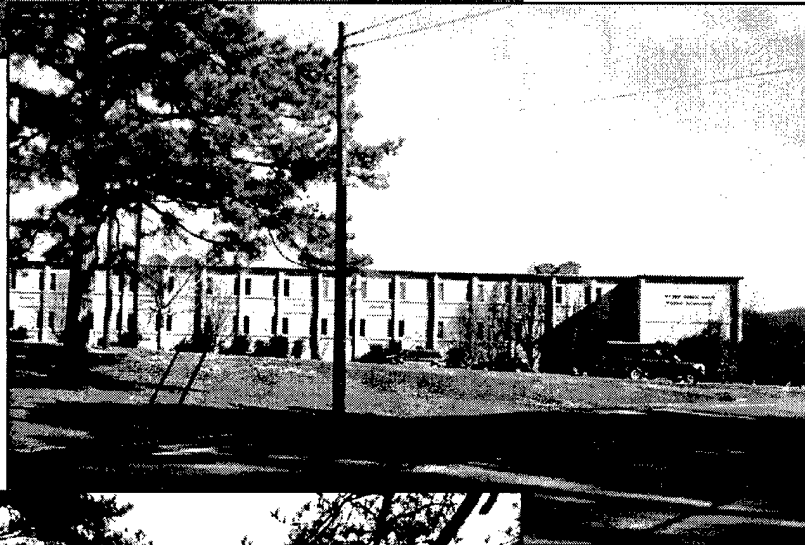


Figure 27  
Photo of WAC Trainees, 1954

Courtesy, Fort McClellan.



Building 1023, Across  
Georgia C. Marshall  
Parade Ground



Building 1081,  
Former Faith Hall  
(WAC School)



Building 2227,  
Former WAC Band Barracks

Figure 28  
Current Photos of Buildings in Former WAC Area



Building 2276,  
Former WAC BOQ



Building 2293,  
WAC Memorial Chapel

Figure 29  
Current Photos of Buildings in Former WAC Area

which included 25 classrooms, a library, and a bookstore. The George C. Marshall parade ground, used by marching troops in their weekly reviews, occupied a large rectangular area in this section. Unaccompanied WAC officers were housed in Bachelor Officers' Quarters (BOQs) numbered 2275, 2276, and 2277 located on an elliptical drive on a nearby hill. These had a capacity of 50 officers each. Senior officers occupied several rock cottages (2235, 2236, 2237, 2238, 2239, and 2240) that had been built previously and moved to the WAC area. An athletic field (1370) and swimming pool (1095) for WAC personnel were constructed nearby. The 300-seat WAC Chapel (Building 2293) was dedicated on May 12, 1956 on the 14th anniversary of the corps. A small WAC Post Exchange (Building 2291) was opened in 1959.

The WAC facilities, while perhaps considered austere by today's standards, were touted as modern and even luxurious in the 1950s. Most of the buildings were made of cream-colored steel-reinforced concrete or concrete blocks. A few had yellow/beige brick exteriors. Most were utilitarian in appearance with flat roofs, large louvered windows in steel frames, ventilation fans, asphalt tile flooring, and pastel-painted interiors. Few had air conditioning until later years. (After air conditioning was added, most of the large windows were reduced in size, and almost no original windows remain today.) Living quarters varied according to rank, but most were considered superior to equivalent male quarters. Each barracks had three stories and a basement containing offices, storage, and a mail room. Undated documents supplied by the fort described them as follows:

Each barracks building houses an entire company, including administrative offices. On the first floor there is a reception room where Wacs may receive male guests. A dayroom (the Army living room) is also on the first floor and provides indoor recreational facilities such as TV, card and other tables, writing desks, magazines and newspapers, juke box and hi-fi recordings. A pullman kitchenette is situated on each floor of the barracks. Laundry rooms on each floor are equipped with automatic washers and dryers.

Trainees are housed in open bays accommodating 40 women each. Cadre assigned to companies in the battalion and top three graders in the headquarters company occupy private rooms. Other permanently assigned enlisted women live two to a cubicle and each may decorate her quarters in any appropriate manner desired.

Student officers and officer candidates lived in similar barracks with semi-private rooms. WAC officers in the BOQs had more spacious accommodations. Lieutenants and captains shared a suite, which consisted of two bedrooms separated by a

bathroom. Majors and above had individual suites - living room, bedroom, and bath (Morden 1990:150). Officers in key positions occupied a few small cottages.

According to Morden (1990:151):

Attainment of the branch "home" made a difference in the progress of most WAC programs. It provided visible proof that Congress and the Army appreciated the Women's Army Corps and wanted it to prosper. The new Center and school thus enhance the prestige of the WAC within the Army, improved the morale of the women on duty, and gave WAC recruiters a significant new selling point for obtaining recruits and student officers. During the year that ended 30 June 1954, 2,958 enlisted women entered the corps; in the year that followed, 4,384. And while only 90 women received commissions in FY 1954, and only 53 in FY 1955, 115 were appointed in FY 1956.

The WAC School's motto was "Wisdom, Achievement and Character." After 1956 the school also trained women of the military services of other countries. The College Junior Course was offered beginning in 1957. This four-week course introduced the Army to women who had completed their junior year in college in order to qualify them for commissions in the WAC after college graduation. In addition to basic training for enlisted personnel in the WAC Center, the WAC School offered several different courses through the late 1950s and 1960s. The eight-week Enlisted Clerical Training Course qualified women (and eventually men) who had completed basic training for assignments as clerk-typists or stenographers. These students were quartered in the adjoining Officer Training Detachment and Clerical Training Company. The cadre of these units conducted training in drill, inspections, parades, and ceremonies. The 20-week Officer Career Course trained senior officers in the duties and responsibilities they would assume in staff assignments at Army or higher headquarters. Students in the Officer Basic Course and Officer Candidate Course prepared to assume company grade duties during their 18-week training period.

The WAC Center and School was also the home of the all-female 14th Army Band from 1954 to 1974. This well-respected band achieved national fame through radio, television and personal appearances, including presidential inaugural parades. It traveled extensively in support of recruiting and public relations activities. The band had approximately 50 members in 1965. It participated in fort functions such as marchouts, weekly reviews, graduation ceremonies, orientations, and special events and functions. The band was assigned to Headquarters, U.S. Army Training Center, Fort McClellan in 1974, and it was integrated to include men in 1976.

Women in the Army were trained to rigorous standards of military discipline by a highly qualified staff and faculty. Training soon expanded as the Army changed to open more occupational specialties to women. By 1972 Army policy allowed women to serve in more than 400 Military Occupational Specialties (MOS). The only duties closed to women were the combat-related ones and those that were considered too physically demanding for women. Increased eligibility for overseas assignment gave women more opportunity, and, for the first time in 1972, the Secretary of the Army approved a change in regulations whereby women would be permitted to command men. Weapons familiarization was introduced to women's basic training in 1974.

Any policy expanding the Corps affected Fort McClellan. WAC active Army strength was 19,358 enlisted women and 1,172 officers in 1973. The U. S. Army Women's Army Corps Center and School had grown from one basic training battalion with four companies in 1954 to three battalions with 14 companies by 1973. One of the three battalions at Fort McClellan was disestablished in 1974, but a new WAC battalion was activated at Fort Jackson, South Carolina (*Fort McClellan News*, May 13, 1983). Social attitudes about women in the Army had also changed by the 1970s, and this eventually lead to major policy changes that fully integrated women into the Army.

Fort McClellan remained the home of the WAC until the corps was disestablished and its flag retired in 1978. The end of the corps signaled the end of "separate but equal" policies regarding women in the Army. Participating in the final ceremony was Maj. Gen. Mary E. Clarke, the last director of the Women's Army Corps and destined to later become the commanding general of Fort McClellan, the first woman ever to command a major Army installation.

#### **U. S. Army Chemical Center and School (1951-1973, 1980-1999)**

On January 4, 1951 the Army announced that it had decided to reactivate Fort McClellan on a unlimited basis for operation of the Chemical Corps School and as a replacement center for the Chemical Corps (Lane 1955:32). The selection of Fort McClellan was based in part on its extensive areas for outdoor training and the possibility for expansion. The move from the Army Chemical Center (formerly Edgewood Arsenal, Maryland) took place from May to August in 1951. The new Chemical Training Command at Fort McClellan included the Chemical Replacement Training Center, the 100th Chemical Group, and the Chemical Corps School (Lane

1955:32). Pending construction of new facilities, the school began temporarily operating out of Building 141 on "the Hill" near Post Headquarters.

In September 1951, the school opened with a full schedule, offering numerous courses throughout the year to officers and enlisted men of all branches of the Army. Courses were also available to Navy, Air Force, Marine and Coast Guard personnel, as well as to students of some foreign nations. These courses ranged in length from two to 40 weeks and were designed to offer the best specialized training in all phases of Chemical Corps activity. Basic training was given to recruits at the Chemical Replacement Training Center. It consisted of eight weeks of training in basic Army skills, weapons, tactics, battle indoctrination and similar activities. This was followed by eight weeks of chemical training in the operation of smoke generators, flame-throwers, the principles of decontamination, and protection against chemical warfare. Unit training was carried on by the 100th Chemical Group which taught advanced skills in chemical warfare on a unit level. The Chemical Corps School offered advanced training in all phases of chemical, biological and radiological (CBR) warfare (Lane 1955:33).

A brief history of the Chemical Corps is necessary to provide a context for the discussion of the Chemical School. The corps dates back to World War I when the 30th Engineers Gas and Flame Regiment was organized on August 30, 1917. The Germans had already released deadly chlorine gas in a devastating attack near the Belgian town of Ypres on April 22, 1915 (*Anniston Star*, March 24, 1981). Various allied schools in chemical warfare, called Gas Schools, conducted courses during the war, but no single U. S. agency had complete responsibility for the various activities related to chemical warfare. This changed when the Chemical Warfare Service (CWS) became a permanent branch of the Army in 1920 and the Chemical Warfare School at Lakehurst Proving Ground, New Jersey, was brought under its control. The school was transferred to Edgewood Arsenal, Maryland on September 20, 1920. During World War II, responsibility for research and development in the field of biological operations was also assigned to the CWS. The allies were convinced that their own stockpiles of chemical weapons deterred the Germans from using gas warfare in the Second World War (Lavin 1998:33).

The CWS was redesignated the Chemical Corps in 1946, and with that change the school became the Chemical Corps School. Between the end of the Second World War and the beginning of the Korean conflict, the Chemical Corps, along with the rest

of the Army, was reduced in size. Responsibility for radiological defense was added to the mission of the Corps in the 1950s when nuclear warfare became an increasing threat. At the beginning of the Korean War, the need for better coordination of chemical training, additional units, and expansion of the Chemical Corps School became apparent. The 1951 move to Fort McClellan was designed to provide that area for expansion. According to Lavin (1998:33):

...As the Cold War developed, the United States once again began to develop a retaliatory capability for both chemical and biological weapons, with the justification that only a credible allied capability could prevent the Warsaw Pact from using chemical agents. Nerve agents, which were remarkably swift and lethal, were produced on a large scale, although all other agents were also produced.

Because many Nazi production facilities for nerve agents were in eastern Germany, the Soviet occupation of that region gave the Soviets the technology to make nerve agents. Intelligence estimates of Soviet chemical capabilities convinced Army leaders that the Soviets were prepared to use lethal gases and that the United States must maintain a credible deterrent. Warsaw Pact troops were reported to be conducting extensive training in chemical defense measures, while aerial reconnaissance showed substantial storage facilities for chemical weapons.

The Chemical Corps School at Fort McClellan underwent several name changes and some reorganization through its history -- first in 1957 to the U. S. Army Chemical Corps School, and then in 1963 to the U. S. Army Chemical Center and School. Involvement in the Southeast Asian conflict resulted in the use of riot control agents, defoliants, smoke, and flame by U. S. combat troops. Non-lethal CS munitions (known to some as "tear gas") were used to subdue the enemy in Vietnam in circumstances where it was difficult to distinguish the Viet Cong from the civilian population.

A changing political climate after Vietnam War lead to the recommendation to disestablish the Chemical Corps as a separate branch in 1973. Since an unexplained 1969 accident at the Army's chemical testing facilities at Dugway Proving Ground in Utah, the Army had discontinued development of its retaliatory chemical capabilities and even limited its implementation of defensive measures (Lavin 1998:56). In the 1970s chemical warfare underwent what appeared to be a period of de-emphasis in the United States. The Chemical School was closed and removed from Fort McClellan in 1973. In 1976 the recommendation for disestablishment of the Chemical Corps was withdrawn because of the awareness of a growing nuclear-biological-chemical (NBC) threat from the Soviet Union. The Chemical Corps was retained as a branch, and the school was reactivated at Fort McClellan in 1980. The Army's regimental system



affected the Chemical Corps on June 27, 1986, when the Chemical Corps Regiment was established.

Chemical facilities and training at Fort McClellan changed considerably in the years between 1954 and the end of the Cold War. From 1951 to 1954, the school was housed in converted barracks (Building 141) until the new buildings were opened on October 4, 1954. Most of the 10 million dollar project was erected by the Shelby Construction Company of Norfolk, Virginia. The new facilities included a school building with air-conditioned classrooms (Building 3181); two 500-man barracks (3130 and 3131); one 25-man bachelor officers quarters (3135); laboratories for chemical, biological and radiological instruction (in buildings 3182 and 3181); a 500-seat auditorium (in Building 3181); the Training Command Headquarters (3191); motor pool (3138); flame thrower buildings; personnel decontamination station (3185); a warehouse (3170); and later a hot cell for storage and remote handling of radioactive materials (3192). Building 3192 will be discussed in greater detail in the evaluation section of this chapter. The earliest facilities are illustrated in the map in Figure 30, and later expansion is shown in Figure 31. Figure 32 is an early plan of the main school in Building 3181 (called Sibert Hall between 1965 and 1973).

Regular courses of instruction in 1954 included the Basic Chemical Officer Course, the Associate Chemical Company Officer Course, the Chemical Officer Advanced Course, and refresher courses. By the mid-1960s the list of courses for officers had expanded to include the following: Chemical Officer Basic (9-week), Chemical Officer Career (28-week), CBR Officer (4-week), Radiological Safety (2-week), USARADCOM CBR Officer (3-week), Chemical Officer Refresher (2-week), and Explosive Ordnance Disposal (2-week). Selected enlisted personnel were trained in specialized fields to become decontamination supervisors, chemical equipment repairmen, laboratory technicians, chemical staff specialists, and radiological technicians. Intensive field training for combat situations was an integral portion of the curriculum. Scientific and technological training, as well as familiarization with the use and application of specialized equipment, were important aspects of most courses.

A total of approximately 4,000 students graduated from all programs in 1955. By 1966 approximately 1,400 officers and 4,000 enlisted men graduated from resident programs. Extension programs enrolled another 2,500 students annually (U.S. Army Chemical Center and School 1967). Thirty-six different courses were offered in 1967.

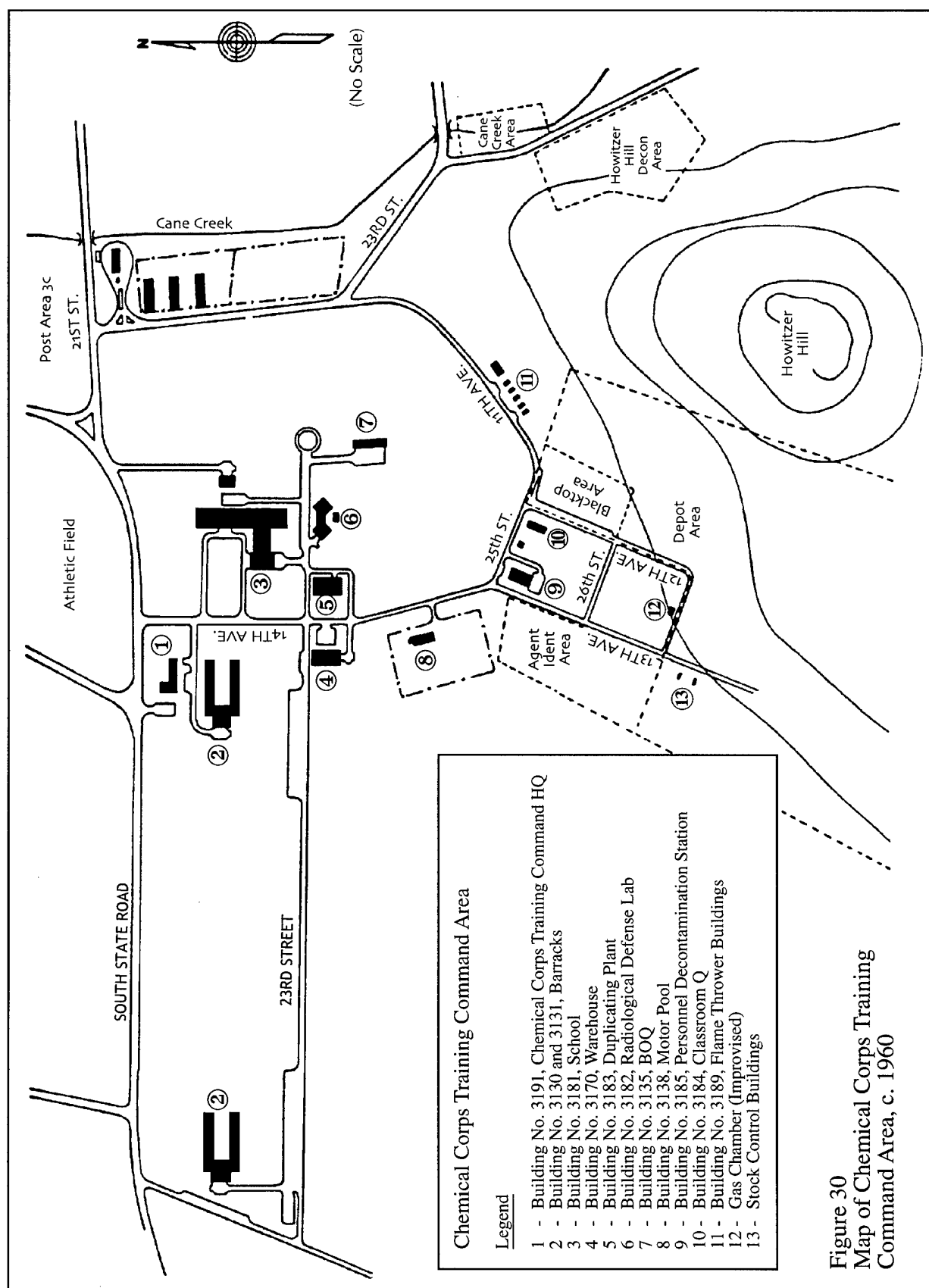
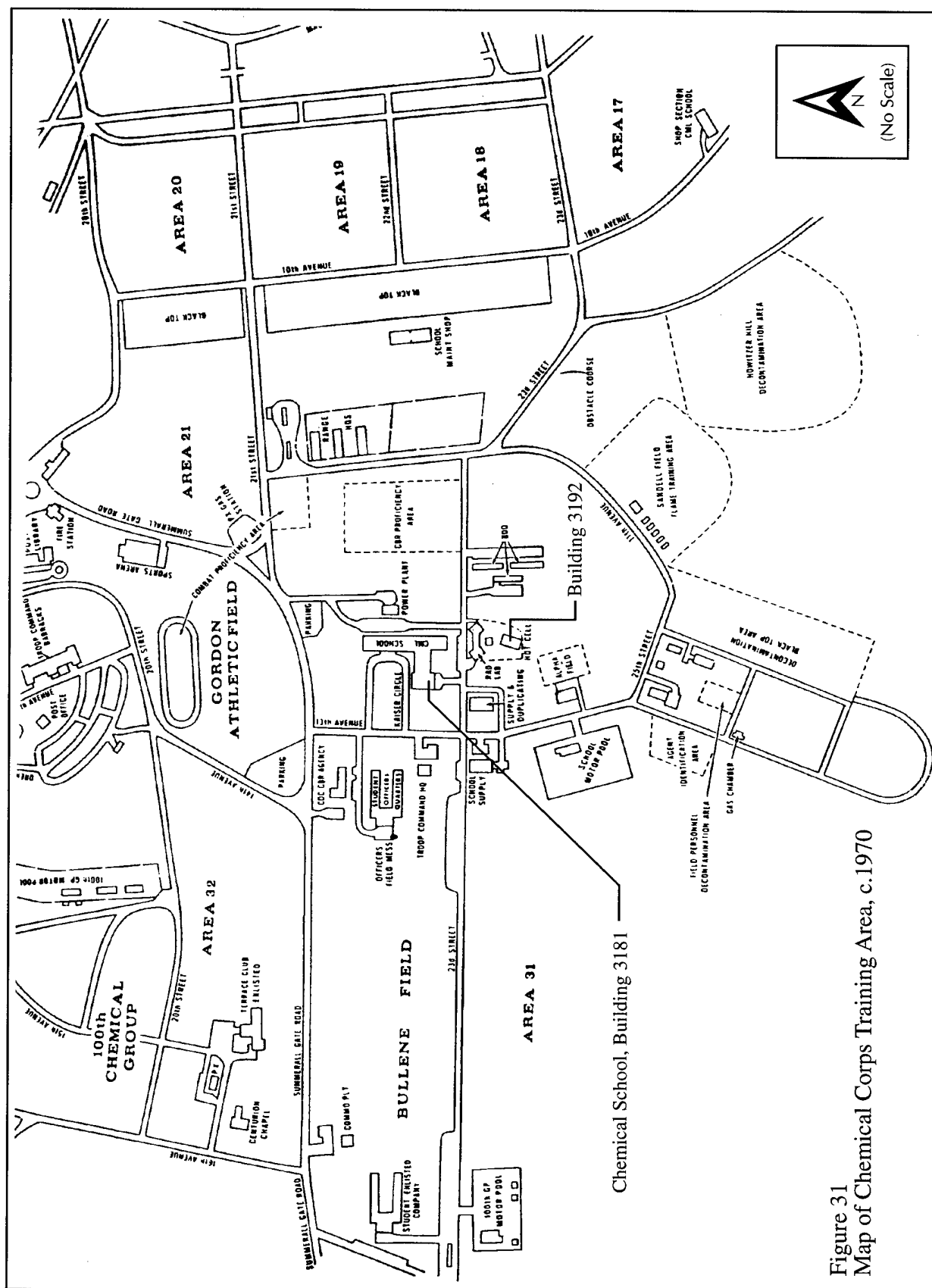


Figure 30  
Map of Chemical Corps Training  
Command Area, c. 1960



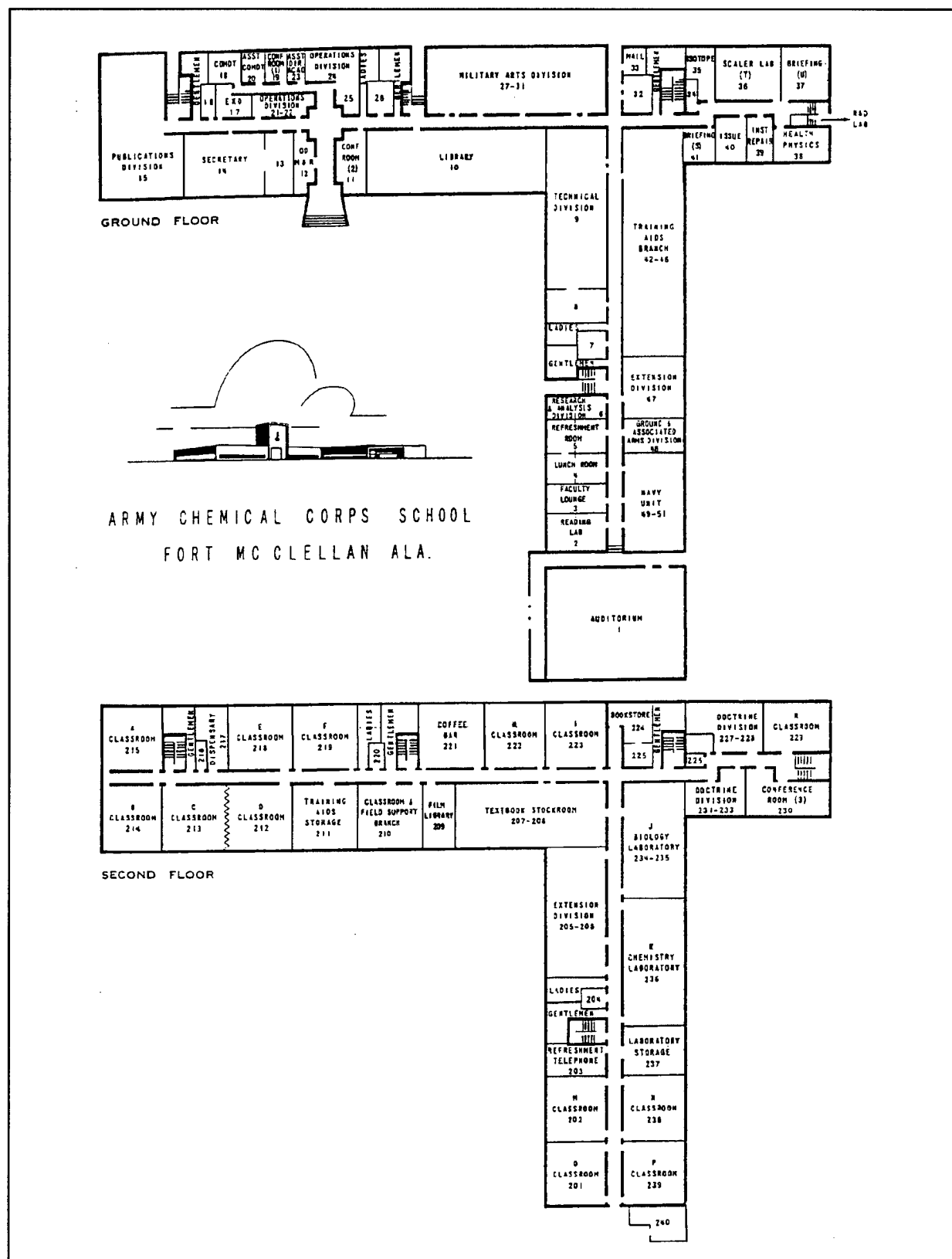


Figure 32  
 Plan Building 3181, c. 1970

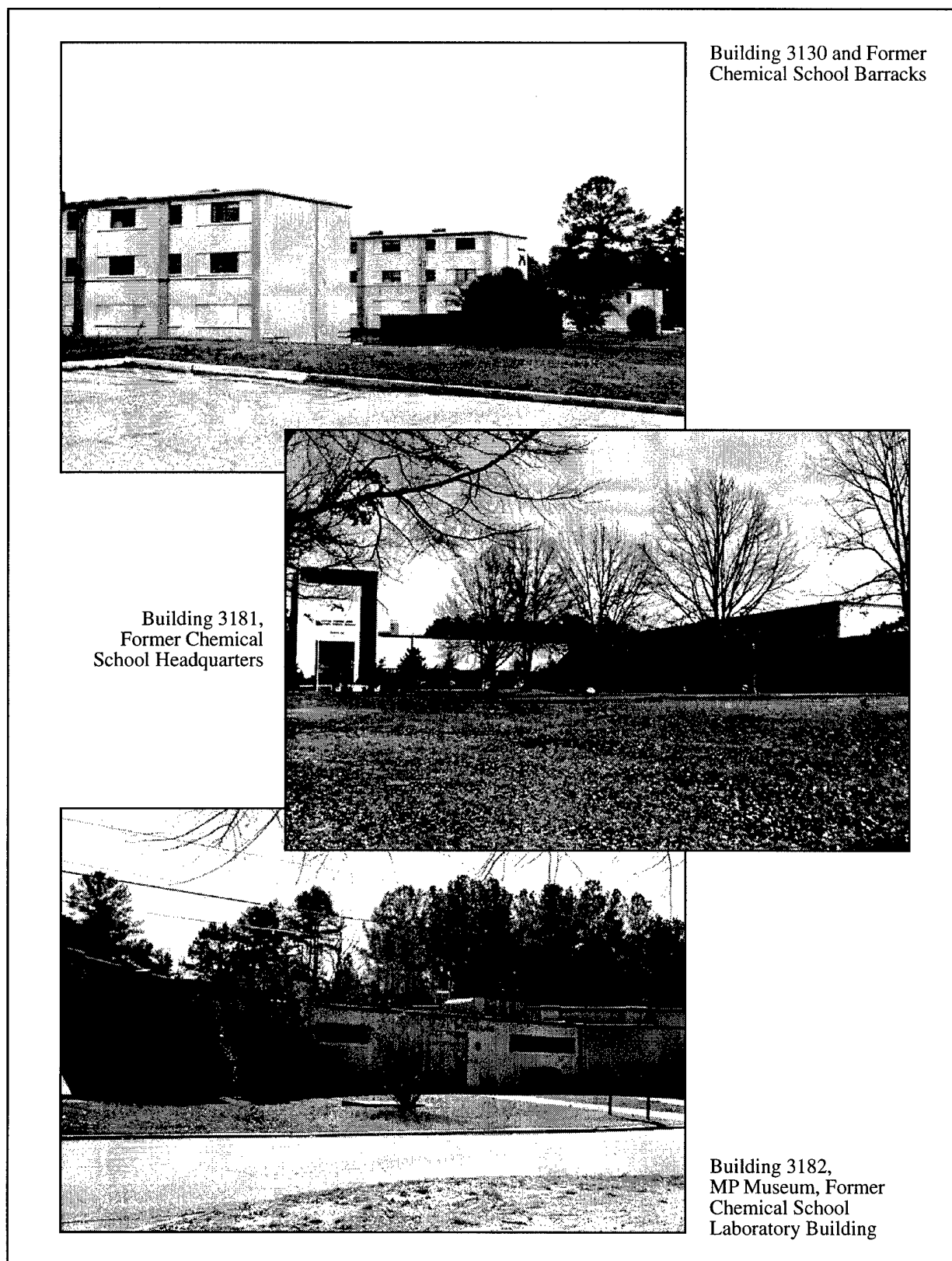


Figure 33  
Photos of Buildings in Former Chemical School (Now MP Area)

As the school contributed to the Army build-up in Vietnam, the training load increased significantly (*Fort McClellan News*, May 23, 1967). By 1969, 8,000 students were trained annually at what the fort termed "probably the most advanced training institution in the free world in the areas of chemical, biological and radiological study (*Anniston Star*, June 6, 1969). Permanently assigned staff included approximately 800 officers, enlisted personnel and civilians. New chemical laboratory equipment was added, along with new classrooms and training areas. A mock Vietnam village at Pelham Range enhanced practical instruction and allowed students to participate in CBR problems in field exercises.

The closure of the Chemical School in 1973 was not the end of nuclear, biological and chemical (NBC) training at Fort McClellan. It was announced in 1979 that the U. S. Army NBC Defense School would move from Aberdeen, Maryland, to renovated facilities at Fort McClellan (*Anniston Star*, April 4, 1979). When the Chemical Corps and Chemical School returned in 1980, they moved into many of the facilities formerly occupied by the then-disestablished Women's Army Corps Center and School, as well as other buildings on the installation. The U.S. Army Chemical Corps Museum was located in Building 2299, a former WAC clothing issue warehouse.

The major objective of the new school was to provide training directed toward detection, identification, and protection against the effects of NBC weapons, and the application of first aid and decontamination measures should personnel and equipment be exposed to such weapons. Over 2,800 resident students graduated in 1982. New facilities for the Corps were added as the school expanded in the mid- to late 1980s. The two most significant of these were the new academic building (the second building on post to be named Sibert Hall) and the Chemical Decontamination Training Facility (CDTF). These buildings, along with new housing for 1,300 officers and NCOs, nearly doubled the size of the chemical school facilities (*Anniston Star*, August 6, 1985).

The new Sibert Hall was attached to Building 1081, the former Faith Hall of the WAC School which was re-designated as Faith Wing. The 150,886 square-foot building was constructed at a cost of 12 million dollars by "C" Construction of Tyler, Texas (Spector 1988:99). It opened in August 1988 with classrooms, laboratories, the School Headquarters, the Fisher Library, a PX, a bookstore, gift shop, administrative offices, meeting rooms, and all departments concerned with training. This building consolidated many of the activities that had been scattered in several facilities.

The 11 million dollar CDTF was constructed from 1983 through 1986, and it became operational in early 1987. The Army's first facility to train soldiers in a toxic agent environment was also the only known facility of its type in the world. The need for realistic chemical defense training was considered critical in response to threats from formidable Soviet chemical stockpiles. After the Cold War ended, the facility remained operational to protect against other chemical threats. Students are able to train with deadly GB and VX nerve agents in special "hot areas" that have airtight doors, negative air pressure, and sophisticated monitoring and filtration systems (*Fort McClellan News*, February 4, 1987) They are taught to function in awkward and bulky gas masks and protective gear while learning how to identify and detoxify contaminated soldiers and equipment. Students then clean themselves of exposure by passing through a labyrinth of dressing rooms and showers. The main training facility is located in Building 4482, which is supported by an administration building (4481), security office (4480), air filters (4479), incinerator (4483) and waste treatment (4484). The entire area is surrounded by a security fence. The CDTF will be discussed more extensively in the evaluation section at the end of this chapter.

With the closure of Fort McClellan in late 1999, the U. S. Army Chemical Corps and the Chemical School is relocating to Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. A new CDTF and other facilities are under construction there.

### **U. S. Army Military Police School (1975-1999)**

The Army's Military Police Corps has relocated seven times since 1941. It was announced in 1973 that the U. S. Army Military Police School (USAMPS) would move from Fort Gordon, Georgia, to Fort McClellan, Alabama. Renovation began on many of the existing facilities at Fort McClellan, primarily in the area abandoned by the Chemical School when it left in 1973. The MP School officially arrived in July 1975. The main building of the MP School moved into a renovated Building 3181, re-named Bandholtz Hall. (This was the known as the Chemical School's Sibert Hall prior to 1973.) According to materials prepared for the Commanding General's Yearbook by the MP historian's office (no author given):

The two-story L-shaped building has approximately 136,000 square feet with 34 classrooms with Educational Television (ETV) and rearview projection stages in each. Located within building 3181 are the offices of the Commandant, Assistant Commandant, School Secretary, Deputy Commandant for Education and Training, and the Department of Basic and Advanced Law Enforcement Training. The facility houses

a small cafeteria, PX, library, and a 500-seat auditorium. The office of the Deputy Commandant for Combat Training and Development is located in building 3191, a two-story building across the street from the schoolhouse. The eleven-building complex that comprised the Applied Instruction Facility was the first remodeling project to be completed, and the ceremony marking the occasion was held in April 1975. Training of Military Police men and women was expected to increase. Courses at the Military Police School ranged from officer and noncommissioned officer basic and advanced courses to junior enlisted basic military police, criminal investigation, and various other specialties including polygraph, sentry dog handler's orientation, defensive driving, and security management.

Non-resident instruction and correspondence courses were also available. Full accreditation through the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools became effective in 1976. That same year the school reorganized to conform to the new TRADOC services school structure. The school was organized by directorates, each with a functional responsibility. Increasing demands for trained and qualified MP officers and enlisted personnel led to further expansion of the school. The goal was to have the finest academic facilities, most sophisticated training devices, and most up-to-date teaching techniques of any Army school. The Military Police Corps Museum had also moved with the MP School in 1975 to Building 3182. Once again, according to materials prepared for the Commanding General's Yearbook by the MP historian's office (no author given):

Maglin Hall . . . was dedicated in October 1978. It housed the Department of Basic Law Enforcement Training and was the only building of its kind in the Department of Defense inventory especially designed and built as a law enforcement complex. The building covered over 85,164 feet and cost \$4,322,000. Maglin Hall has over 22 multi-purpose classrooms, 14 interview rooms, 5 study rooms that have individual audio-visual training aids, a completely equipped MP station, courtroom, communications lab, and individual crime-scene rooms. Maglin Hall was built to accommodate up to 2,521 students at one time. The MP School trained approximately 11,500 students each year. The construction boom for the MP School continued. Four battalion-size, ultra-modern barracks were built near Maglin Hall for the anticipated One Station Unit Training (OSUT) of Military Police trainees. Two of these barracks were completed in 1977 and the remaining two were completed in 1978. New firing ranges for basic rifle marksmanship and pistol training were completed in April 1977. These new ranges more than doubled the school's marksmanship training capability.

The 1977 USAMPS Rear Area Combat Operations study recommended that MP units' firepower, mobility, and communications be increased dramatically. Combat readiness training began to include MP operations in new areas and activities. Implementation of OSUT reduced the cost of relocating soldiers from one post to another and improved the trainees' morale by combining Basic Combat Training and Advanced Individual Training into one course. In 1980 the MP School began conducting



a counter-terrorism course, and by 1982 all officer advanced course students were receiving a complete course. The 1980s ushered in a new era of changing doctrines and strategies, as well as advanced weapons and communication technology. The image of the MP returned to one of being a protector and assistant to fellow soldiers and the community.

The USAMPS trained some 10,000 initial entry Army police soldiers in 1983. The multi-service facility also provided instruction to Air Force, Marine, Navy, Army reserve, National Guard, allied students and civilians, including initial entry and professional development courses. The Military Police School Battalion provided command and administrative support to the staff, faculty and students.

Through the 1980s the Military Police participated in a number of domestic and worldwide contingency operations. Civil disturbance training was crucial for such activities as controlling riots in some of the camps holding Cuban and Haitian "boat people" who had tried to enter the United States. The MP Corps also became a principal player on the Airland Battlefield doctrine with a wide range of missions, including combat operations and support. MP units were called in on "Operation Urgent Fury" in Grenada in October 1983. Military police were trained to conduct tactical operations, to coordinate combat and combat support operations, and to fight with the newest equipment. Special Reaction Team (SRT) training prepared Military Police to respond to critical criminal incidents or high-risk situations on military installations. In 1986 the MP Corps was formalized as a regiment of affiliation for Military Police soldiers.

The Polygraph School was transferred to Fort McClellan with the MP School in 1975. It had been established at Fort Gordon in 1951 as part of the Provost Marshall General's School. The Secretary of the Army was designated as the executive agent for polygraph training within the Department of Defense in 1985. The Army Polygraph School became the DoD Polygraph Institute at Fort McClellan in 1986.

As the Cold War came to a close at the end of the 1980s, the U.S. Armed Forces were increasingly involved in Low-Intensity Conflicts (LIC). The Military Police were an integral part of LIC missions that included peacekeeping, anti-terrorism and hostage situations, insurgency/counterinsurgency and negotiations. As the threats facing the United States were reassessed, changes in training were developed that enabled MP units to make a quick transition from war fighting to Operations Other Than War

(OOTW). Military police from Fort McClellan were deployed in 1995 to "Operation Joint Endeavor" as part of a peace keeping mission in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

In 1995 Congress's BRAC committee recommended that Fort McClellan be closed and the MP School be moved to Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. Transfer of all MP School activities were scheduled for late 1999.

## Evaluation of Cold War Era Buildings and Structures

There are a large number of properties that constitute the physical legacy of the Army during the Cold War (1946-1989). The great majority are related to troop and employee support (base operations or BASEOPS). Because these resources would have been built (although perhaps not in the same quantity) as part of the normal evolution of the Army, they should not be considered eligible for the National Register under the context of the Cold War military-industrial theme. Eligible Cold War resources are those that relate directly to the Cold War itself, not just to the Cold War period. Resources that are less than 50 years of age, as are most Cold War properties, must be evaluated for the National Register under the criteria of "exceptional importance" (Criteria Consideration G). For U. S. Army properties, these evaluations can be made by reference to "Department of the Army Interim Policy for Cold War Era Historic Properties" (Department of the Army 1995) and *Thematic Study and Guidelines: Identification and Evaluation of U. S. Army Cold War Era Military-Industrial Historic Properties* prepared for the U. S. Army Environmental Center (Lavin 1998).

The U.S. Army Environmental Center (Lavin 1998) has developed its own checklist to assist in assessing whether a property is exceptionally significant under the Cold War military-industrial context. The Scope of Work for this project requires the use of this document in evaluating significance. If the answer to *all* of the following questions is "yes," then the property may qualify for National Register listing under the exceptional importance criteria. If the answer to *any* of the questions is "no," then the resource does not qualify under this consideration. The following questions will be applied to the subject properties:

- Is the resource less than 50 years old, or, if it is more than 50 years old, is its only period of significance less than 50 years old?

- Does the resource directly relate to the Army's military-industrial role in the Cold War?
- Does the resource have national significance?
- Does the resource meet National Register Criterion A, B, C, or D?
- Does the resource retain integrity?
- Does the property display, through physical design or association, any of the themes described in this document and does it do so in an extraordinary way?

Cold War property types at Fort McClellan generally fall under the category themes of the Army school system and TRADOC. Training personnel became a principal means of ensuring a qualitative advantage over the Soviet Union. TRADOC is responsible for the Army's schooling system, ranging from basic training for new recruits to advanced schooling for senior officers. Since 1951 Fort McClellan has consisted of several branch schools where soldiers receive training in their military specialty. Property types within this category range from BASEOPS, which are excluded from National Register eligibility, to specific structures designed to train soldiers in specific skills. These include mock-up facilities that simulate distinctive environments. Other examples of property types are parade grounds, ranges, school halls, computer simulation centers, basic training reception centers, and miscellaneous training facilities (Lavin 1998:105).

U. S. Army property types evolved with the changing mission of the installations and their tenant activities. The most meaningful examination of the properties at Fort McClellan is to categorize them by their school. This means that some buildings may be considered more than once, due to re-use of facilities by different tenants of Fort McClellan. Of the approximately 870 Cold War era buildings or structures at Fort McClellan, most will not be individually evaluated for this study. As discussed in the Methods section of Chapter II, it was not possible within the Scope of this project to conduct such an inventory of each building and structure. Instead, the properties will be evaluated in groups as related to either the WAC Center and School, the U. S. Army Chemical Center and School, and the Military Police School. Facilities not related to these schools have been excluded because a general review of real property records revealed that most are associated with BASEOPS and/or that they do not appear to meet the requirement for a direct Cold War association.

## The Women's Army Corps Center and School (1954-1978)

The following lists the major buildings, dates of construction, and original uses of the facilities in the WAC Center and School:

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**Table 1 - Major Properties Associated with the WAC Center and School:**

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<u>Property No.:</u>	<u>Construction Date:</u>	<u>Original Use:</u>
1001	1954	Mess Hall
1020	1954	Headquarters
1021	1954	Headquarters Company
1022	1954	Clerical Training Company
1023	1954	Officers' Training Detachment
1060	1954	Headquarters
1081	1954	WAC School (Faith Hall)
2202	1954	Mess Hall
2203	1954	Mess Hall
2213	1954	WAC Service Club
2220	1954	Headquarters and Receiving Company
2221	1954	"A" Company Barracks
2223	1954	"B" Company Barracks
2224	1954	"C" Company Barracks
2225	1954	"D" Company Barracks
2227	1954	14th Army WAC Band Barracks
2275	1954	BOQ
2276	1954	BOQ
2277	1954	BOQ
2281	1954	Basic School (Munson Hall)
2290	1954	Dispensary
2291	1959	WAC Post Exchange
2293	1956	WAC Chapel
2299	1954	Clothing Warehouse

---

The above facilities fail to meet the criteria for exceptional importance, because the answer to several of the questions on the previously-discussed checklist is "no". The facilities do not directly relate to the Army's military-industrial role in the Cold War.

Most of the resources also do not retain integrity due to extensive changes. The properties also do not display, through physical design or association, any of the significant Cold War themes. These were routine buildings without any special or unique characteristics that would qualify them for exceptional significance.

The Alabama Historical Commission, through a letter dated December 22, 1999, has raised the question of whether the WAC Center and School might be exceptionally significant for women's history and for women's involvement in the Army under National Register Criterion A and Criterion Consideration G (see letter in Appendix D). The WAC buildings were similar to many other military buildings from the 1950s era that were used for similar functions. Fort McClellan used plans and layouts that were extremely common on any military facility of the time. A few modifications for use by women occurred primarily in the living quarters. These were mostly superficial changes to barracks such as paint colors, curtains, room dividers, furniture, and appliances in kitchenettes and laundry rooms. All evidence of these early characteristics has disappeared over the years as the buildings have been continuously updated and modernized on both the interior and exterior.

Perhaps the most visually significant change to buildings in the former WAC area was the addition of air conditioning to all buildings and the resulting reduction in window size. In order to maintain energy efficiency, large windows were usually filled in with concrete block and smaller windows. This occurred in large buildings throughout the WAC area. Several of the buildings, such as Building 1081, also had major additions that were so large that they eclipsed the original structure. The WAC area does not retain historical integrity due to extensive interior and exterior changes to almost all the buildings. While the story of the Women's Army Corps may be an important part of women's history, that history is not embodied in the physical design of this particular group of buildings. For that reason, they are not recommended as eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

## U. S. Army Chemical Center and School

The following properties relate to the first Chemical School which was at Fort McClellan from 1951 to 1973:

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**Table 2 - Major Properties Associated with the Chemical School from 1954 to 1973:**

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<u>Property No.:</u>	<u>Construction Date:</u>	<u>Original Use:</u>
3130	1954	Barracks
3131	1954	Barracks
3138	1954	Motor Pool
3170	1954	Warehouse
3181	1954	School
3182	1954	Radiological Defense Lab
3183	1954	Duplicating Plant
3184	1954	Classroom Q
3185	1954	Personnel Decontamination Station
3191	1954	Chemical Corps Training Command HQ
3192	1959-60	Classroom and Hot Cell Building

---

The above facilities were vacated by the Chemical School when it left Fort McClellan in 1973. Most were converted for use by the MP School in 1975. All specialized laboratory equipment and similar items were removed and the buildings were renovated for new uses. For this reason, most do not retain the requisite historical integrity to be considered as representative of Chemical School activities. They do not display the physical design and association to convey their original uses. Most also do not directly relate to the Army's military-industrial role in the Cold War. One possible exception is Building 3192, which contained a special radiological "hot cell" and classroom. The building was abandoned, and much of the equipment was removed when the facility was decontaminated in the 1980s and 1990s. However, it is considered important enough to be evaluated for individual eligibility for the National Register and will be discussed in detail in a separate paragraph at the end of this section.

The current Chemical School occupies several buildings vacated by the Women's Army Corps in 1978. Most of these are administrative buildings, barracks, mess halls, and other support facilities. None possess any characteristics that may make them likely candidates for exceptional significance. The two major new facilities constructed

specifically for the Chemical School are the addition to Building 1081 (the second building named Sibert Hall) and the Chemical Decontamination Training Facility (CDTF) which includes buildings 4479, 4480, 4481, 4482, 4483, and 4484.

The 150,886 square-foot Sibert Hall was completed in 1988 at a cost of 12 million dollars. It houses classrooms, laboratories, the School Headquarters, the Fisher Library, a PX, a bookstore, gift shop, administrative offices, meeting rooms, and all departments concerned with training. This massive building consolidated many of the Chemical School activities. Building 1081 does not meet the criteria for exceptional significance because it does not relate directly to the Army's military-industrial role in the Cold War, nor does it have national significance or display through its physical design any of the Cold War themes. While it does have some laboratories and special facilities, it is primarily an administration and classroom building.

The following paragraphs will discuss the CDTF and Building 3192 which were examined and evaluated in greater detail. These were the only two Cold War era facilities associated with the present and former Chemical Schools at Fort McClellan which were thought to have potential eligibility under National Register Criterion Consideration G.

### **The Chemical Decontamination Training Facility (CDTF)**

The specially-constructed Chemical Decontamination Training Facility (CDTF), consisting of buildings 4479 through 4484, is the first and only known facility of its kind in the world. It was built in 1983-86 as a direct response to increased threats from Soviet chemical munitions. It was reported at the time that the Soviets had a 1,000-to-one advantage in modern deliverable chemical weapons (*Fort McClellan News*, February 4, 1987). The CDTF's purpose was to safely train service members to operate in a toxic agent environment using standard protective gear. Strengthening soldiers' confidence in their equipment was a major objective. As the Cold War progressed, specialized realistic training, such as that provided by the CDTF, became increasingly important because weapons and equipment were becoming technologically sophisticated.

The facility was built at an approximate cost of 11 million dollars. The primary contractor was Batteast Construction Company of South Bend, Indiana. The subcontractor for the incinerator was Midland Ross of Toledo, Ohio. The work was supervised by Mobile District of the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers (*Fort McClellan*

*News*, February 4, 1987). Figures 34 and 35 show the facility plan and floor plan of the main training building when it became operational in 1987. Figures 36 and 37 are current photographs of parts of the facility. The area is enclosed by a fence and accessed by a security office at the gate. The administration building (4481) is brick with a blue metal roof. It contains offices and two 50-person classrooms. The main training building (4482) is concrete with a red metal roof. Roof colors are symbolic of "hot" and "cold" areas of the complex. The other major structures are air filters (4479), an incinerator facility (4483), and a waste treatment building (4484).

The main training building is a technologically sophisticated system of sealed areas created with safety and environmental protection as major concerns. Entry is through electronically locked doors adjacent to a control room/safety office which contains monitoring equipment and closed-circuit television screens. A lobby and assembly area is adjacent to a special room where trainees check the safety of their masks prior to training. An on-site laboratory manufactures small amounts of GB and VX nerve agents that are used in training. Students go through training in seven individual bays that are maintained under negative air pressure. An inward airflow creates a vacuum-like suction inside these rooms. Air from inside the chambers is drawn out through a series of agent filters before being released into the atmosphere. All liquid and solid wastes are also processed and monitored for contamination. They are disposed of in a two-stage incinerator.

When the facility first opened for operation in early 1987, an article in the *Fort McClellan News* (February 4, 1987) described the three-day training sessions as follows:

The first consists of a mock contamination exercise using simulants on the facility's outdoor training pads. The second exercise, in a training bay, allows students to detect, identify, and decontaminate actual chemical agents. On the final day, each student must go through a more thorough exercise which requires detecting, identifying, and decontaminating an Army armored reconnaissance vehicle.



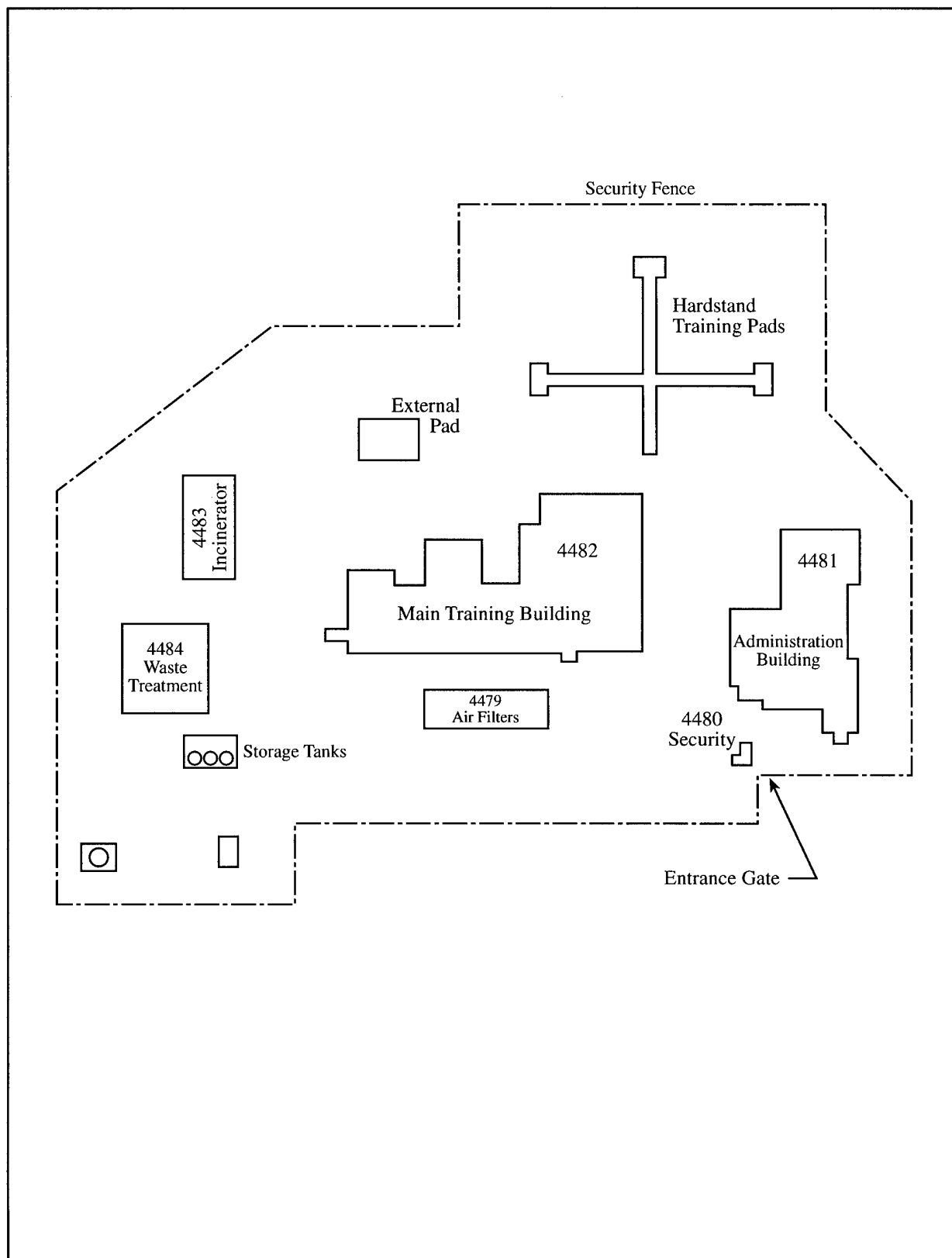
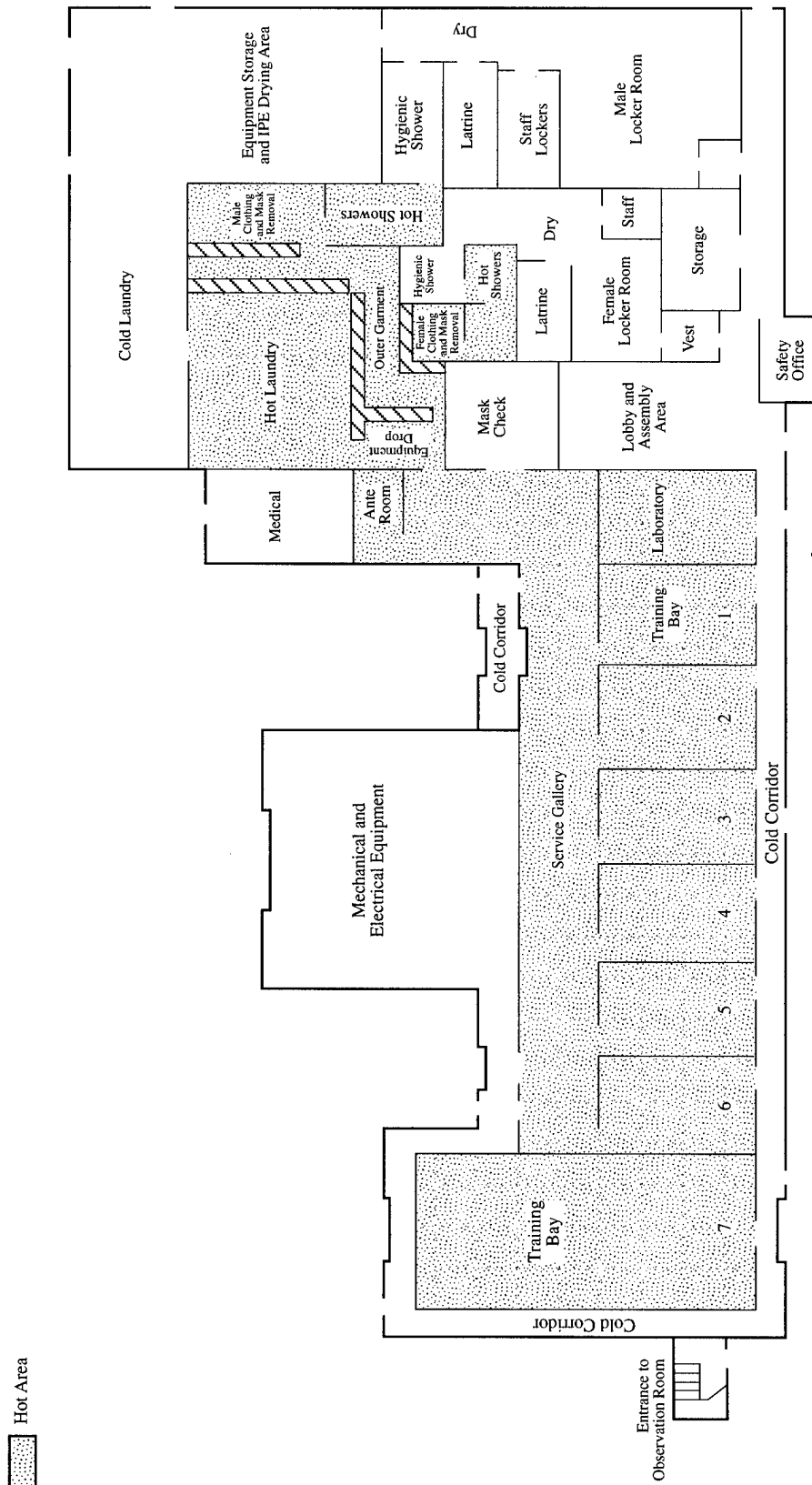
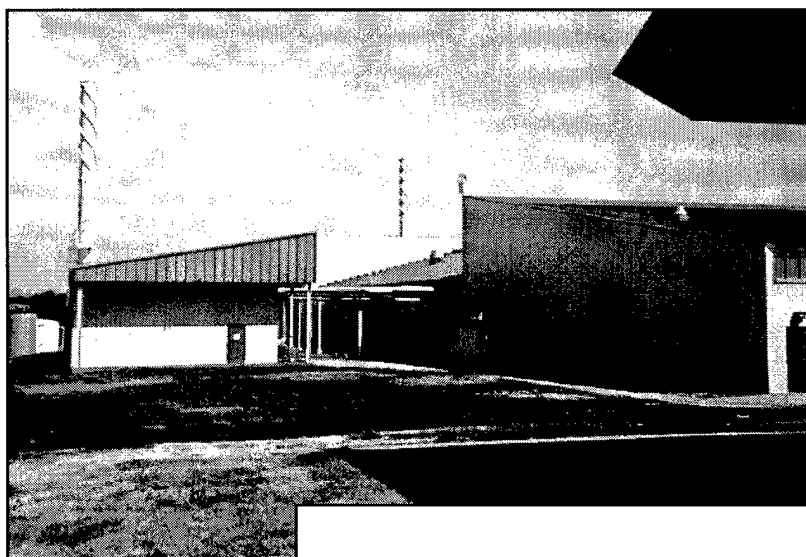


Figure 34  
Diagram of CDTF Complex, c. 1987

Figure 35  
Plan of Main Training Building, CDTF, c.1987





Exterior Views of CDTF  
Main Training Building  
No. 4482

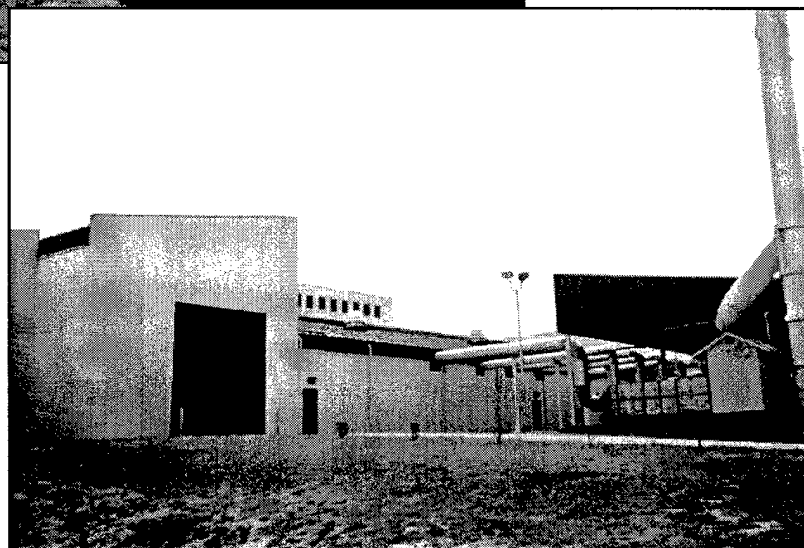
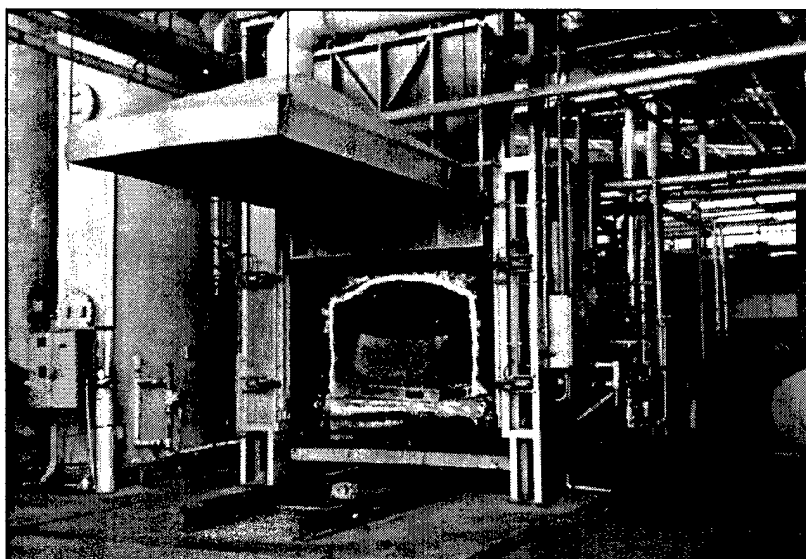
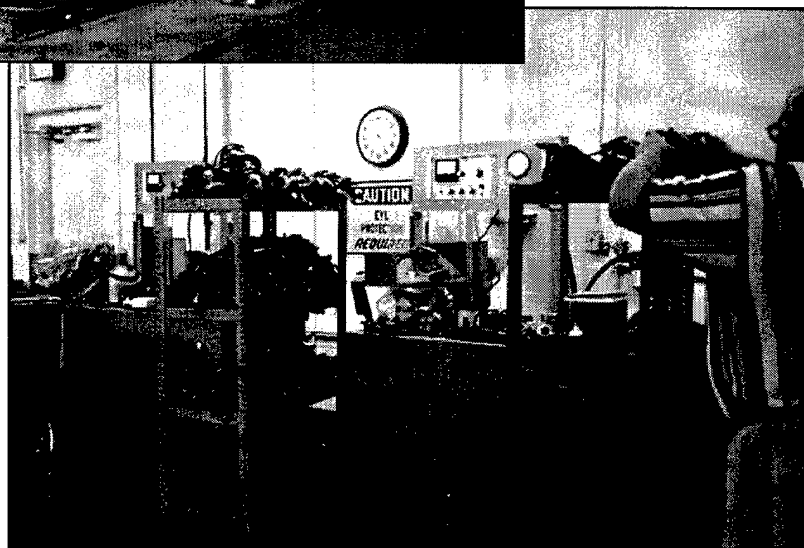


Figure 36  
Photographs of CDTF



CDTF, Incinerator Area



CDTF, Equipment  
Storage Area

Figure 37  
Photographs of CDTF

Some of the training has been modified only slightly since the facility opened. Students wear heavy overgarments, masks, gloves, and overboots. After training they must purge themselves of exposure by passing through a series of rooms for clothing removal and showers. Garments and gear are processed through a hot laundry and cold laundry. In the hot laundry, items are tested for exposure and either decontaminated or bagged for disposal in the incinerator. An on-site medical facility has specially trained staff to provide first aid in case of accidental exposure. Emergency power generators are available to keep all systems operating in case of an electrical outage.

The CDTF is recommended eligible for the National Register of Historic Places as a district under the context of the Army's military-industrial role in the Cold War. It has national significance, and it meets National Register criteria A and C for its historical associations and its unique technology and design. It also retains integrity, and it displays, through physical design and association, the Cold War themes related to the Army's training and school system. Even though it was built in the relatively recent past, it does meet the criteria for exceptional importance. Within the boundaries of the present security fence, only those buildings associated with the technological aspects of this district should be considered contributing elements. These include buildings 4479, 4482, 4483 and 4484. The security guard house and administration building (4480 and 4481), as well as any other non-technological structures, are recommended as non-contributing to the district.

### **Building 3192**

Building 3192 is a vacant building associated with the former Chemical School as it existed from 1954 to 1973. It is now located in the Military Police School area directly behind Building 3182 which houses the MP Museum. Constructed in the late 1950s, Building 3192 consisted of a large multi-level classroom, an office, a mechanical equipment room, a shower, and a radiological hot cell. The hot cell was used to train soldiers in the remote handling of high-level radioactive materials, as well as to prepare, maintain and transfer multicurie C-60 for training exercises at Pelham Range. The hot cell was adjacent to the classroom so students could use testing equipment to detect background radiation levels within the hot cell. The building was closed in 1972, and remediation of radioactive materials was completed in the 1980s and 1990s. Most of the

interior component parts of the building have been removed, and few aspects of its former operation are still visible.

The rectangular concrete-block building measures approximately 28 by 75 feet, covered with a gable roof. Exterior doors are located on the two shorter walls. The classroom area is illuminated by a series of high ribbon windows. The concrete walls of the interior "hot cell" are three feet thick. High-level radioactive materials could be manipulated within the encapsulated area of the hot cell through remote handling devices that entered through two access ports above a viewing window. The window had three layers of thick leaded glass with mineral oil between the layers for optical clarity. The bi-parting door to the hot cell had a steel exterior filled with three-foot-thick concrete. The windows and doors to the former hot cell have been removed, but remain on the premises. The manipulators are no longer in the building. Only a few of the mechanical boxes and switches remain.

Figure 38 shows the relationship of the hot cell building to other chemical school facilities in the 1960s. Building 3180, a 12-by-12 foot radioactive storage vault, has been completely removed. Radiation Lab "W" in Building 3182 handled lower-level radioactive materials. It is now an exhibit room in the MP Museum, and it has no remaining components related to its former laboratory use. The same is true of former laboratories in Building 3181. Figure 39 is a 1959 floor plan of Building 3192, and Figure 40 has current photographs.

Based on available information, this building is recommended as not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under the context of the Army's military-industrial role in the Cold War. While it appears to meet National Register criteria A and C for its historical associations and its specialized technology and design, it has lost its integrity through the removal of essential elements. Because so many components of the building are no longer extant, it does not retain sufficient integrity to represent the processes that occurred inside. It does not display, through physical design and association, the Cold War themes related to the Army's training and school system. It also does not appear to meet the criteria for exceptional importance, because it cannot convey the technological aspects of its mission.

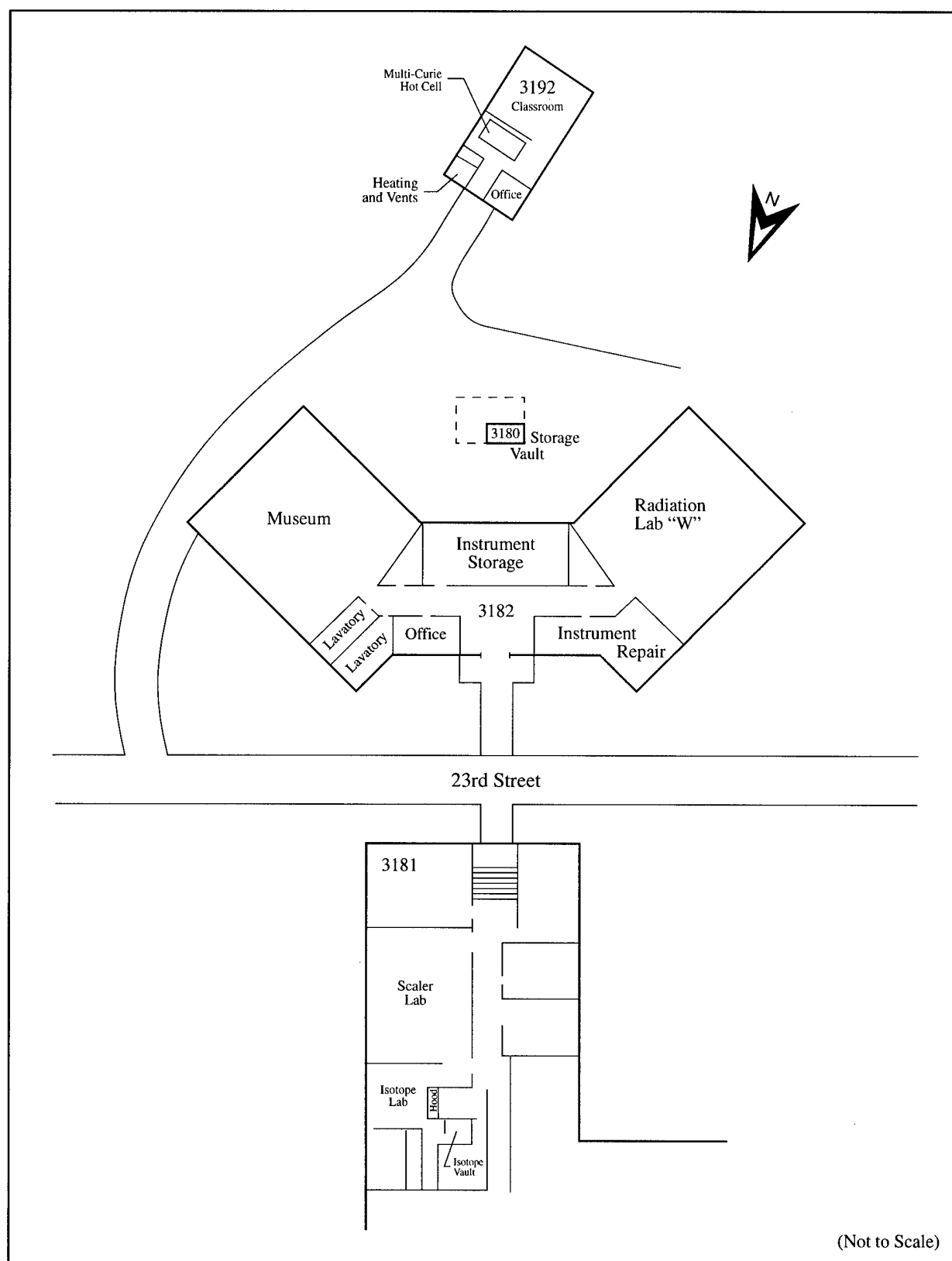
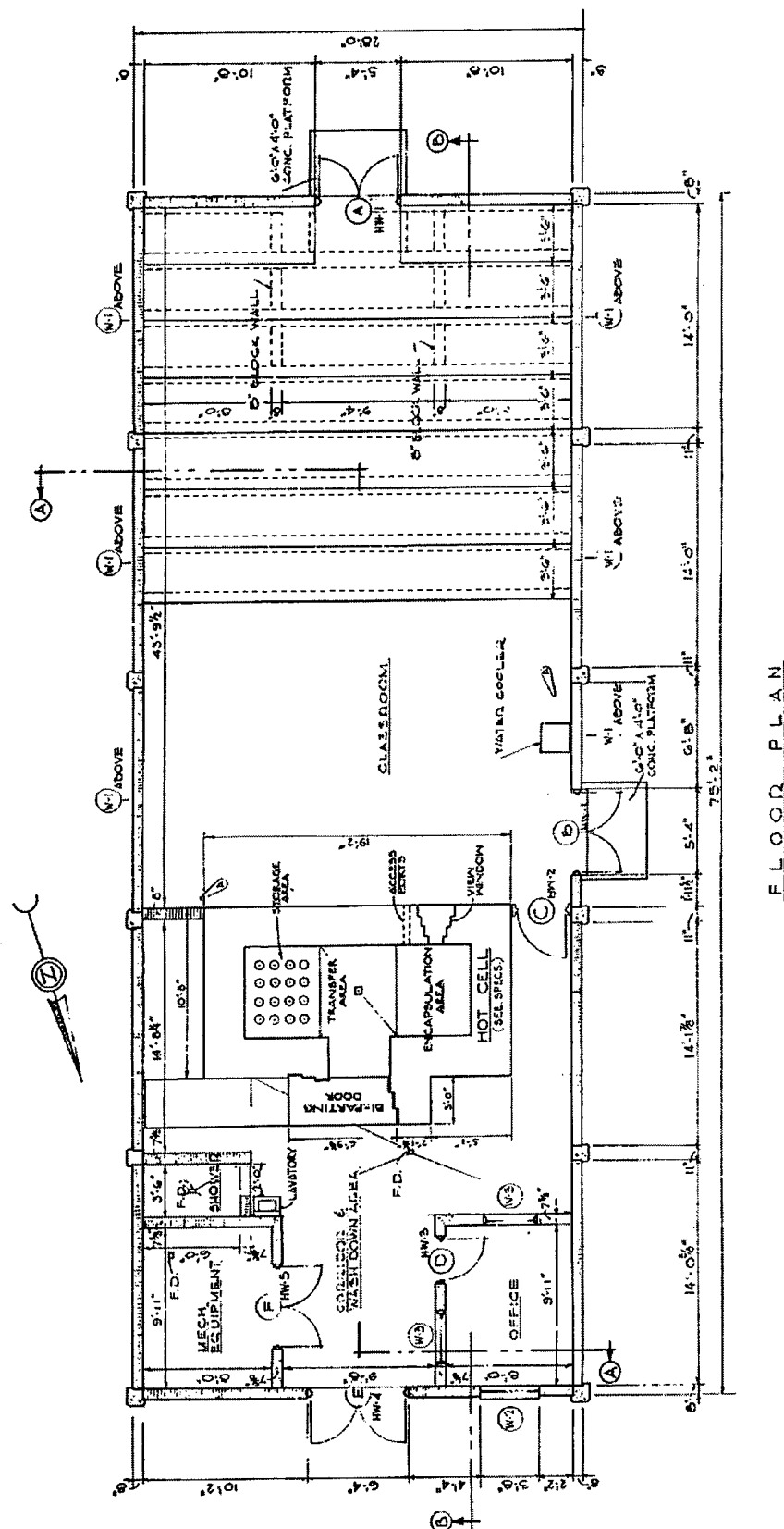


Figure 38  
Schematic of Radiological Facilities, c. 1960s

Figure 39  
1959 Floor Plan of Building 3192 (Former Hot Cell Building)





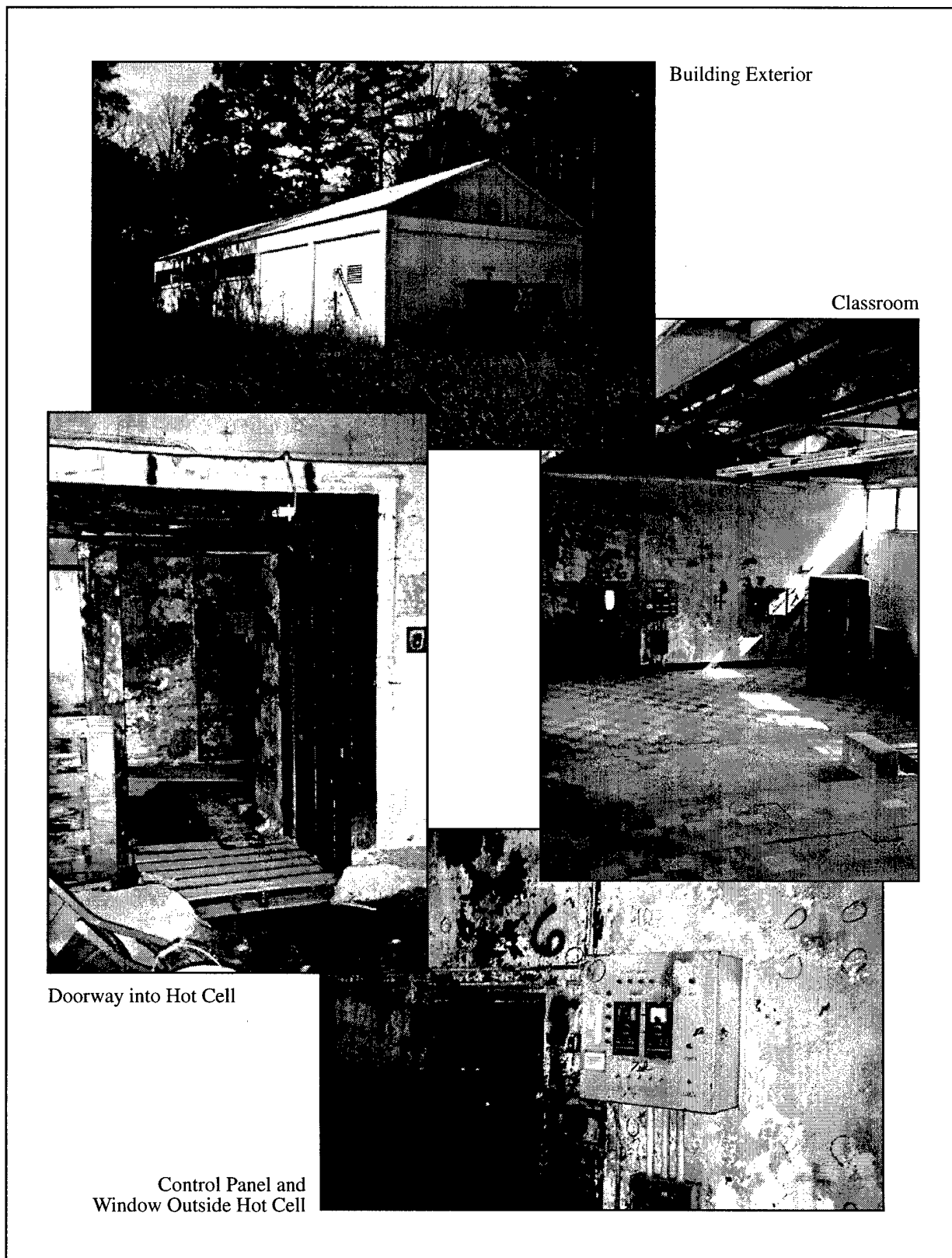


Figure 40  
Photographs of Building 3192

## U. S. Army Military Police School

The Military Police School has a relatively short history at Fort McClellan. In 1975 it moved into a number of buildings that had been recently vacated by the Chemical School. Several new facilities were constructed in 1977 and 1978. The following is a list of major buildings.

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**Table 3 - Major Properties Associated with the MP School:**

---

<u>Property No.:</u>	<u>Construction Date:</u>	<u>Military Police Use:</u>
1601	1977-78	Barracks
1602	1977-78	Barracks
1801	1977-78	Barracks
1802	1977-78	Barracks
1881	1978	Multi-purpose Law Enforcement Complex
3130	1954	Barracks
3131	1954	Barracks
3138	1954	Motor Pool
3169	1954	Crime Scenes
3181	1954	Classrooms, Main Offices
3182	1954	MP Museum
3183	1954	BOQ
3184	1954	Physical Security Lab
3185	1954	Photo Lab
3191	1954	Combat Training Development
3195	1954	Polygraph Lab

---

The above facilities fail to meet the criteria for exceptional importance, because the answer to several of the questions on the previously-discussed checklist is "no". The facilities do not directly relate to the Army's military-industrial role in the Cold War. They also do not appear to meet any of the National Register criteria, and they are not nationally significant. Most of the properties also do not display, through physical design or association, any of the significant Cold War themes. Many are routine buildings without any special or unique characteristics that would qualify them for exceptional significance.

## V. Conclusions

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Properties associated with World War II and Cold War contexts at Fort McClellan have been treated as two distinct categories. As discussed in Chapter II, National Register evaluation criteria are applied differently to these properties depending on whether or not their major significance arises from events occurring in the last 50 years. Hundreds of buildings and structures were constructed at Fort McClellan during the Cold War era. However there appeared to be only two that had the potential to meet the more stringent criteria for "exceptional significance," as defined by the National Register and U. S. Army guidelines. These were associated with the U.S. Army Chemical School.

The Chemical Decontamination Training Facility (CDTF) meets the criteria of exceptional significance because this specially-constructed facility is the first and only known structure of its kind in the world and it was built in 1983-86 as a direct response to increased threats from Soviet chemical munitions. It was designed to safely train service members to operate in a toxic agent environment. As the Cold War progressed, specialized realistic training, such as that provided by the CDTF, became increasingly important because weapons and equipment were becoming technologically sophisticated. Only the buildings associated with the technological aspects of this district should be considered contributing elements. These include buildings 4479, 4482, 4483 and 4484. Buildings 4480 and 4481, as well as any other non-technological structures, are recommended as non-contributing to the district.

Another building which was evaluated related to the earlier 1960s-era Chemical School. Building 3192 (the former "hot cell" building) once contained a facility for remote handling of high-level radioactive materials. It is located behind Building 3182, now the MP Museum. Building 3192 housed a classroom and a radiological hot cell. The hot cell was used primarily to prepare, maintain and transfer multicurie C-60 for training exercises at Pelham Range. It was closed in 1972 and remediation of radioactive materials was completed in the 1980s and 1990s. Most of the components of the building have been removed, and few aspects of its operation are still visible. Due

to a loss of historical integrity, this building is recommended as not eligible for the National Register.

There are also a number of older (over 50 years of age) resources that were previously determined eligible as part of three National Register eligible districts. These are the Post Headquarters District, the Industrial District, and the Ammunition Storage District. The period of significance for those districts extends through World War II and each includes one or more contributing elements that were constructed in the 1941-1945 time period. The proposed Industrial District includes only two buildings constructed during World War II, plus numerous older buildings. Those constructed during the war are Building 246 (c. 1941) which is contributing and Building T-245 (c. 1941) which is non-contributing. The proposed Ammunition Storage District originally listed 15 ammunition storage buildings as contributing elements. Those constructed during World War II were igloos numbered 4408, 4409, 4410, 4411, 4412, 4413, 4414, 4415 and 4416. Five buildings in this district (4403, 4404, 4408, 4409 and 4414) were subsequently documented to HABS/HAER standards in anticipation of their scheduled demolition. The proposed Post Headquarters District mostly pre-dates World War II, but it includes a contributing 1941 addition to Building 51, the former Officers' Club. This building also contains significant World War II POW murals on the interior walls, which should be considered a significant element of Building 51. Building 66, constructed in 1941, is also within the Post Headquarters District, but it is listed as non-contributing due to extensive alterations.

Fort McClellan also has eight World War II era permanent buildings, plus 15 bridges and a German-Italian POW cemetery, that are located outside the previously defined historic districts. These were evaluated for individual eligibility. The eight World War II permanent buildings have had extensive changes and are not recommended as eligible, either because they lack the required historical integrity or because they have no particular significance in the context of World War II at Fort McClellan. The eight permanent buildings that are considered not eligible are as follows: 270, 1031, 1122, 1919, 1920, 2020, 2090, 2091. These were also previously considered not eligible in a 1993 survey (Reed et al. 1993b), and New South found no reason to change those recommendations. In addition, five buildings (130, 335, 336, 337 and 339) that are now listed as permanent on real property records were originally considered "temporary," and are therefore not subject to this study. The only World

War II permanent buildings recommended as eligible are already within the previously-defined National Register districts.

In addition to the buildings, there are 15 bridges that were initially constructed during World War II. Eleven vehicle and foot bridges are numbered 4302, 4303, 4305, 4306, 4314, 4318, 4319, 4331, 4342, 4352 and 4363. Four railroad bridges are numbered 4702, 4703, 4705, and 4706. Historical data on these bridges is limited. They all cross Cane Creek or its tributaries, and most are small single- or double-chamber bridges with concrete guard rails. Most appear to use standardized construction. Three of the bridges, all constructed in 1941, make use of hand-crafted stone masonry on some part of the bridge. These include vehicle bridge 4342, which should be considered a contributing element in the Industrial District. Bridges 4318 and 4319 show less refined masonry work, and do not lie within the boundaries of any eligible district. These two, as well as the remainder of the bridges, are recommended as not eligible for the National Register due to a lack of significance.

Another resource is the small World War II German-Italian POW cemetery (real property # 3430). Normally a cemetery is not eligible for the National Register, except under special circumstances. One way it may be considered is if it derives its significance from "association with historic events." A POW cemetery is a very unusual historic resource in Alabama, especially since there are virtually no other visible remains of the large POW camp at Fort McClellan. This was an important part of McClellan's World War II history, and the cemetery is recommended as eligible for the National Register.

Fort McClellan also contains a large number of World War II temporary structures, primarily barracks, warehouses and related buildings. As noted earlier these are not included in this study since mitigation measures for these buildings have already been completed on a nationwide basis in compliance with a 1986 Programmatic Agreement between the Department of Defense, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers.

The following three tables summarize the above conclusions:

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**Table 4 - Permanent World War II era properties outside eligible districts:**

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<u>Property No.:</u>	<u>Construction Date:</u>	<u>NRHP Eligibility Recommendations:</u>
270	1942	not eligible (per 1993 &1999 studies)
1031	1941	not eligible (per 1993 &1999 studies)
1122	1941	not eligible (per 1993 &1999 studies)
1919	1941	not eligible (per 1993 &1999 studies)
1920	1941	not eligible (per 1993 &1999 studies)
2020	1941	not eligible (per 1993 &1999 studies)
2090	1941	not eligible (per 1993 &1999 studies)
2091	1941	not eligible (per 1993 &1999 studies)
3430 (cemetery)	1943-45	eligible (per 1999 study)
4302	1941	not eligible (per 1999 study)
4303	1941	not eligible (per 1999 study)
4305	1941	not eligible (per 1999 study)
4306	1941	not eligible (per 1999 study)
4314	1941	not eligible (per 1999 study)
4318	1941	not eligible (per 1999 study)
4319	1941	not eligible (per 1999 study)
4331	1941	not eligible (per 1999 study)
4352	1941	not eligible (per 1999 study)
4363	1941	not eligible (per 1999 study)
4702	1941	not eligible (per 1999 study)
4703	1941	not eligible (per 1999 study)
4705	1941	not eligible (per 1999 study)
4706	1941	not eligible (per 1999 study)

---

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**Table 5 - World War II era properties inside eligible districts:**

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<u>Property No.:</u>	<u>Construction Date:</u>	<u>NRHP Eligibility Recommendations:</u>
51	1941 addition	contributing to Post Hdq. Dist. (per 1993 study)
51	1943-44 POW murals	contributing to Post Hdq. Dist.
66	1941	non-contributing to Post Hdq. Dist. (per 1993)
246	1941	contributing to Industrial Dist. (per 1993 study)
T-245	1941	non-contributing to Ind. Dist. (per 1993 study)
4342	1941	contributing to Industrial Dist. (per 1999 study)
4408*	1941	Ammunition Dist., recently demolished
4409*	1941	Ammunition Dist., recently demolished
4410	1941	contributing to Ammunition Dist. (per 1994 )
4411	1941	contributing to Ammunition Dist. (per 1994 )
4412	1941	contributing to Ammunition Dist. (per 1994 )
4413	1941	contributing to Ammunition Dist. (per 1994 )
4414*	1941	Ammunition Dist., recently demolished
4415	1941	contributing to Ammunition Dist. (per 1994 )
4416	1941	contributing to Ammunition Dist. (per 1994 )

---

(\* documented through HABS/HAER and cleared for demolition)

Note: All three eligible districts also have pre-World War II properties whose period of significance extends through World War II due to historical association and use.

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**Table 6 - Cold War era properties evaluated for exceptional significance:**

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<u>Property No.:</u>	<u>Construction Date:</u>	<u>NRHP Eligibility Recommendations:</u>
CDTF (# 4479, 4482, 4483, 4484 only)	1983-86	eligible district
3192	1959-60	not eligible

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## Appendix A

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**Draft National Register Nomination:  
Fort McClellan Post Headquarters District**

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Fort McClellan Post Headquarters District

other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ not for publication

city or town Fort McClellan ☐ vicinity

state Alabama code AL county Calhoun code 015 zip code 36205

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this ☐ nomination ☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☐ locally. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State of Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

- ☐ entered in the National Register.  
☐ See continuation sheet.
- ☐ determined eligible for the  
National Register  
☐ See continuation sheet.
- ☐ determined not eligible for the  
National Register.
- ☐ removed from the National  
Register.
- ☐ other, (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Name of Property

County and State

**5. Classification****Ownership of Property**

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- ☐ private  
☐ public-local  
☐ public-State  
☒ public-Federal

**Category of Property**

(Check only one box)

- ☐ building(s)  
☒ district  
☐ site  
☐ structure  
☐ object

**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
59	14	buildings
		sites
1		structures
		objects
60	14	Total

**Name of related multiple property listing**

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

0

**6. Function or Use****Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Defense: Military Facility

Government: Government Office

Domestic: Institutional Housing

Domestic: Single Dwelling

Health Care: Hospital

Religion: Religious Facility

Social: Meeting Hall

Government: Fire Station

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Defense: Military Facility

Government: Government Office

Domestic: Institutional Housing

Domestic: Single Dwelling

Religion: Religious Facility

Social: Meeting Hall

Government: Fire Station

**7. Description****Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Mission/Spanish Colonial Revival

**Materials**

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete

walls Stucco

roof Terra Cotta

other Metal: Iron

Other: Cast Concrete

**Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

## 8. Statement of Significance

### Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- ☒ **A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ☐ **B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☒ **C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ **D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

### Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- ☐ **A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ **B** removed from its original location.
- ☐ **C** a birthplace or grave.
- ☐ **D** a cemetery.
- ☐ **E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ **F** a commemorative property.
- ☐ **G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

### Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

### Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

### Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey  
# \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering  
Record # \_\_\_\_\_

### Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Military

Community Planning and Development

Architecture

Landscape Architecture

### Period of Significance

1917-1945

### Significant Dates

### Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

### Cultural Affiliation

N/A

### Architect/Builder

U.S. Army

### Primary location of additional data:

- ☒ State Historic Preservation Office
- ☐ Other State agency
- ☒ Federal agency
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other

Name of repository:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile Di

**10. Geographical Data**Acreage of Property approx. 76**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	1	6	6	1	1	1	0	0	3	7	3	1	7	8	0
Zone	Easting			Northing											
2	1	6	6	1	1	6	0	0	3	7	3	1	6	8	0

3	1	6	6	1	2	0	6	0	3	7	3	1	0	0	0
Zone	Easting			Northing											
4	1	6	6	1	1	4	2	0	3	7	3	0	7	2	0

☐ See continuation sheet**Verbal Boundary Description**

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

**Boundary Justification**

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

**11. Form Prepared By**name/title Denise P. Messickorganization New South Associates date 9-19-94street & number 6150 East Ponce de Leon Ave. telephone (404) 498-4155city or town Stone Mountain state GA zip code 30083**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

**Continuation Sheets****Maps**A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.**Photographs**Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.**Additional items**

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

**Property Owner**

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name \_\_\_\_\_

street &amp; number \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_

city or town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.



**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section Number 7 Page 1

**Fort McClellan Post Headquarters District  
Calhoun County, AL**

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**7. Description**

The Post Headquarters area of Fort McClellan, known colloquially as "the Hill", is set on a knoll in the Choccolocco Valley at the foot of the Appalachian Highlands near Anniston, Alabama. The present configuration is based on a 1920's plan to transform the post into a military community and to adopt spatial divisions according to function or areas of "reasonable concentration." Begun in 1917 as a National Guard camp, the fort was granted permanent status in 1929 and began a ten year expansion program at that time. Fort McClellan is one of a generation of forts to first use standardized building plans drawn by the Quartermaster Corps with shared perceptions of layout, style, design and landscape. Strongly influenced by the City Beautiful Movement, the new posts were planned to suit all facets of military life, providing for the single soldier as well as the military family.

Elements of the historic fort are still well defined within the Post Headquarters area which has a combination of administrative and residential functions. As one completion report noted, the buildings' styling and mountainous backdrop give an air of rugged simplicity. The contributing buildings in the district are Spanish Colonial Revival in style and most have cream-colored stucco walls and red mission tile roofs. The district's street lights have exposed aggregate concrete poles with bronze detailing on the lamps. Uniformity in color, texture, and decorative features creates a harmonious impact on the viewer. Completion dates for contributing buildings range from 1930 to 1941. Some were projects of federal government relief programs created to provide civilian work in the years of the Depression. During this time the fort area was expanded, creeks were channeled, and buffers were established between areas. The layout is remarkably intact as developed with few intrusive elements.

Buildings identified by number are keyed to the accompanying maps and to a historic building inventory of Fort McClellan submitted to the US Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District, in June 1993. Three sub-areas included in the district are the officers' residential area, the buildings related to post command, and the N.C.O. residential area. Drills and athletic fields were situated to the south and a 9-hole golf course, in place in 1937, was built to the northeast. The officers' quarters (Buildings 1-20) were single family units which lined two open areas, noted as parks, in an elongated horseshoe configuration around Buckner Circle. Alleys with garages (Buildings 181, 182, 183, and 185-190) are noticeable behind the quarters, which were buffered by distance from post traffic. Building 1, which was the commander's quarters on a 1946 map, was sited on an angle almost facing Post Headquarters. This building also had a circular path or driveway to the front door. Space was left for future development along the horseshoe and, by the late 1930's, the officers' quarters contained two types of Spanish Colonial Revival residences. The Officers' Club, formerly the Bachelor Officers' Quarters, was sited on the curve of the horseshoe. Its interior walls have significant murals painted by prisoners of war in World War II. Buildings 21 through 30 along Baltzell Gate Road are brick 1950's ranch style duplex housing. While they do not contribute to the district, they are not visible intrusions since they are set low along the edge of the district. This sub-area combined beauty and economy of space, provided for future expansion, and was organized with a sense of community.

Post Headquarters (Building 61), a low, one story building, occupied the opposite end of the axis. A small, circular band stand or gazebo was built in the depressed area of the park between the Officers' Club and the Headquarters building. The gazebo has the same styling and materials as

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section Number 7 Page 2

**Fort McClellan Post Headquarters District  
Calhoun County, AL**

the surrounding housing. Scale and siting was used to emphasize the significance of administrative facilities. Post Headquarters was flanked on the east by Silver Chapel (Building 67) and on the west by the Hospital (Building 63), now the Provost Marshal Administration Building. Silver Chapel was originally planned as a more elaborate facility, but the economics of the 1930's resulted in a scaled-down version with an ornately decorated portal reminiscent of Spanish Colonial missions. The original Post Exchange (Building 65), now an administration building, was situated southwest of the Hospital on Post Headquarters Road.

Post Headquarters acts as an architectural transition between the residential architecture of the officers' quarters and the large scale three story buildings which lie southeast of it: Buildings 141, 142, 143, 144, 161, 162, and 163. All but the last three are barracks, including Buildings 142, 143 and 144 which were the first permanent buildings constructed in 1930. Buildings 161, 162 and 163 were three separate buildings connected by a colonnade which dates to the original 1936 construction and therefore must be counted as one building for National Register purposes. It originally contained an assembly hall, gymnasium and enlisted mens service club and it now houses a theater and administrative offices. This group of buildings, monumental in scale, embraced a parade ground on three sides. A helipad is now located on the parade ground and expanded parking lots have encroached, but the space still maintains its open feeling. A 1937 map shows temporary buildings still extant among these permanent buildings. CCC buildings are shown behind the hospital and adjacent to the original Post Exchange and long narrow buildings were situated at the base of the parade ground. These buildings were gone by the late 1940's.

The third sub-area consists of the N.C.O. quarters (Buildings 81-90, 102-107) and the former Post Office (Building 66). Arranged in a semicircular formation, these homes are one story in height and are also associated with alleys allowing access to multi-family garages (Buildings 196-198). The Post Office, now used as a day care center, was located east of the N.C.O. quarters. Its exterior walls are covered with rubble stone but the interior and exterior have both been extensively altered.

The Fire Station (Building 69), built in 1936 in the Spanish Colonial Revival style, was situated centrally between the command area and the industrial and transportation areas. It had a transitional role bridging the more utilitarian areas by its function with the post command area by its style. It still serves its original function. The gymnasium (Building 130) was constructed as a temporary building in 1941 and was completely refurbished in 1975. Small buildings in the Post Command area include a recreation office (Building 129), formerly a radio building, and a former ambulance garage (Building 184). Buildings 129 and 130 stand outside the district boundaries as now drawn. Building 184 has been substantially altered.

The Post Headquarters district was found to have 60 contributing buildings and structures and 14 non-contributing buildings. A detailed inventory follows. The area possesses high levels of integrity in terms of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. While Fort McClellan as a whole has grown and expanded outward since the district's period of significance, there have been few major alterations or additions to significant buildings or landscapes within the defined boundaries of the district. The continuity of use as a military post has contributed to its preservation. An industrial/warehouse area to the northeast of the post command area also dates to the same period of construction and significance and is being nominated separately as the Fort McClellan Industrial District. A third potential historic district includes the magazines and the ammunitions storage area. A historic building inventory also identified scattered buildings which have not been included in the district due to their distance from the main complex or intervening intrusive construction or changes in the surrounding context.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section Number 7 Page 3

**Fort McClellan Post Headquarters District  
Calhoun County, AL**

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**INVENTORY OF CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS:**

**Buildings 1-16** (1-16 Buckner Circle)  
Commissioned Officers' Housing (completed 1930)

**Buildings 17-20** (17-20 Buckner Circle)  
Commissioned Officer's Housing (completed 1936)

**Buildings 181-183, 185-190** (alleys behind Buckner Circle)  
Garages (completed 1936)

**Building 51** (Buckner Circle)  
Bachelor Officers' Quarters (original section 1936, addition ca. 1941)  
converted to Officer's Club in 1941

**Buildings 81-87** (81-87 Drennan Drive)  
Non-Commissioned Officers' Housing (completed 1930, addition 1966 on 82-87)

**Buildings 88-90 and 102-107** (Drennan Drive)  
Non-Commissioned Officers' Housing (completed 1936)

**Buildings 196-198** (alleys behind Drennan Drive)  
Garages (completed 1936)

**Building 61** (61 Buckner Circle)  
Post Headquarters (Buckner Hall) (completed 1934)

**Building 67** (67 Buckner Circle)  
Silver Chapel (completed 1936)

**Building 63** (63 Buckner Circle)  
Provost Marshal Administration Building (completed 1931)  
originally constructed as hospital

**Building 65** (65 13th Avenue)  
Administration General Purpose Building (completed 1936)  
originally constructed as Post Exchange

**Building 141 A,B,C** (141 13th Avenue)  
Enlisted Men's Barracks (Stanley Barracks) (completed 1937)

**Building 142** (142 Headquarters Road)  
Enlisted Men's Barracks (Frederick Barracks) (completed 1930)

**Building 143** (143 Headquarters Road)  
Enlisted Men's Barracks (Wikoff Barracks) (completed 1930)  
now used as office space

**United States Department of the Interior**  
**National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Section Number 7,8 Page 4

**Fort McClellan Post Headquarters District**  
**Calhoun County, AL**

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**Building 144** (144 Headquarters Road)  
Automatic Data Processing (completed 1930)  
originally infantry barracks

**Building 161, 162, 163** (161-163 26th Street)  
Theater (Hutchinson Hall, 161) (all completed 1936)  
Administration Building (Koehler Hall, 162) with connecting colonnade)  
Administration General Purpose (Schou Hall, 163)  
162 originally gym, 163 originally Enlisted Mens Service Club

**Building 69** (69 Headquarters Road)  
Fire Station (completed 1936)

**Structure 170** (Buckner Circle)  
Band Stand (completed 1937)

TOTAL = 60 contributing buildings and structures

**NON-CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS:**

**Building 66** (66 Drennan Drive)  
Child Support Service Center (completed 1941, extensively altered)

**Building 184** (184 Headquarters Road)  
Vehicle Registration Building (completed 1932, extensively altered)

**Buildings 21-30** (Baltzell Gate Road and Buckner Circle)  
Housing (completed 1957)

**Building 54** (Buckner Circle)  
Bath House (completed 1958)

**Building 56** (Buckner Circle)  
Outdoor Swimming Pool Building (completed 1958)

TOTAL = 14 non-contributing buildings

**8. Statement of Significance**

The Fort McClellan Post Headquarters District is significant in community planning and development, architecture and landscape architecture as an important early example of the application of community design principles to standardized military construction. This 1930's breed of military posts was a deviation from previous patterns of grid development, although McClellan's World War I heritage also had an impact on the shape it was to take. The intervening period of neglect during the 1920's, a result of stringent federal cutbacks, was to be followed in 1926 by the largest military construction appropriation since the war. Major General B. Frank Cheatham, the Quartermaster General, began his program of nationwide post improvements in the late 1920's

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section Number 8 Page 5

**Fort McClellan Post Headquarters District  
Calhoun County, AL**

with an outstanding group of city planners, architects and landscape designers who were trained in the principles of the City Beautiful and Garden City movements. The internationally known city planning advisor to the War Department was George B. Ford who completed his architectural studies at the Ecole des Beaux Arts in Paris. He and other noted architects and planners, including Lt. Colonel Francis B. Wheaton (formerly of the renowned firm of McKim, Meade & White), Luther M. Leisenring and 1st Lt. Howard B. Nurse, consulted with post commanders to create functional areas that were unified by theme and integrated with the natural landscape features. Designs were cast in regional styles appropriate to the venue in which they were to be built. The Spanish Colonial Revival style predominated in the South and Southwest. These expenditures to create a permanent peacetime military establishment came later to Fort McClellan than to its regional counterparts such as Fort Benning in Georgia, but they soon earned it a reputation as the military showplace of the South. During the Depression, the well-funded housing programs were replaced by assistance channeled through New Deal social programs, and these buildings also contribute to the character of the district.

The post's military significance derives from its roles in both world wars, first as a National Guard camp in 1917, and then as a permanent installation after 1928 with several divisions of soldiers later training there during World War II. These included the 92nd Division, which was the Army's second African-American division, as well two detachments of Women's Army Corps. The Prisoner of War (POW) camp established at Fort McClellan in June of 1943 also figures significantly into the history of the post. The German prisoners became a part of the labor pool and are credited with building stonework walls, landscape features and the exceptional murals which dress the Officers' Club walls. McClellan's evolution and transformation from hastily erected temporary structures to a permanent, planned community reflects the development of the United States military from World War I to World War II.

Fort McClellan's significance on the local level is unquestionable. The development of the fort in the twentieth century and the growth and success of its supporting community of Anniston are inextricably linked. The city of Anniston established not only the political framework which brought the military into the valley, but also helped to financially underwrite the purchase of the land on which the base sits. As early as World War I, the town had elected officials whose sole responsibility was to deal with the fort. The relationship between the two communities was noted as exemplary. At the beginning of the twentieth century, Anniston recognized that its future lay with Fort McClellan, and since that time the future of the two communities have been wed. The historic district at Fort McClellan, which embodies the military post as first developed, is a visual symbol of the union between community and military fortification. It is a distinct, cohesive entity whose individual elements may lack architectural grandeur, but as a group they strongly reflect their time and place and the processes which formed them.

**Historical Narrative and Context**

The twentieth century history of Fort McClellan is closely tied to that of nearby Anniston which was founded after the Civil War by the Woodstock Iron Company. Samuel Noble of Rome, Georgia, and General Daniel Tyler, a wealthy industrialist from Connecticut, set out to establish a model city, a progressive Southern town structured by industry. It was laid out on a grid plan on the valley floor adjacent to iron ore deposits. Trees were placed on major avenues to relieve the monotony and parks were made part of the overall plan. The town was privately owned until 1883 and it enjoyed growth and prosperity until the depression of the 1890's. It began to actively look for ways to enliven its economy and, through pressure on influential members of Congress, was chosen as the

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section Number 8 Page 6

**Fort McClellan Post Headquarters District  
Calhoun County, AL**

location for Camp Shipp which occupied a site north of town on Blue Mountain from 1898 to 1899. By the time the reserve camp was closed, Anniston's iron making industry was being replaced by textile manufacturing and pipe making. In 1912 Congressman Fred L. Blackmon made advances toward the War Department to spur interest in the Choccolocco Mountains as a range for artillery training. The federal government decided in 1917 to purchase the property north of Anniston. The acquisition was orchestrated by the Anniston Chamber of Commerce and, under the purchase agreement, farmers were allowed to work their fields through the summer of 1917. When the Army needed the land sooner than expected, the Chamber underwrote the crop loss. A key factor in the success of Anniston's proposal was the cohesive manner in which they approached the military as a harmonious economic unit.

The events of 1917 compelled the hasty construction of a National Guard camp. War was declared on Germany on April 6th and the Selective Service Bill was passed on May 18th. The Cantonment Division of the Army was mandated to have 32 camps ready by September 1. Camp McClellan was one of the chosen thirty-two, a National Guard cantonment able to handle 27,152 soldiers. It was the first Southern installation named in honor of a Northerner, worse, the commander of the Union forces between 1861 and 1862 (*Atlanta Journal*, April 13, 1959). This challenge to Southern sensibilities was transcended in light of the economic boost the camp would inject into the town of Anniston. In Washington a cadre of volunteers formed a Committee on Emergency Construction, with William Starrett as chair, to set up a building program. These men included industrialists, construction experts, architects and others who managed the complicated process of preparing typical layouts and plans. Charles L. Dulin was the Constructing Quartermaster placed in charge of Camp McClellan. Dulin chose the site of the new camp in the northwestern quadrant after completing a survey of the reservation which considered topography and geography. No towns or villages were displaced since the land use had been mostly agricultural. The area was fairly level, well-drained, and connected by existing roads to Anniston and Jacksonville. It was also closest to the tracks of the Southern Railway.

The World War I post was laid out in 26 blocks designated as areas, each performing a specific function and containing a set number of buildings. The layout of buildings within each block, particularly those devoted to housing the infantry units, was highly regimented. The positioning of the blocks was not quite linear and appears to have been dependent on the most advantageous way to use the creeks and topographical features of the site. The logistics of establishing this incipient city were laboriously orchestrated by Colonel Dulin as he struggled with water supply, finding laborers, dealing with labor strikes, and the scientific management of labor, road construction and heavy rainfall. Soldiers would be delivered by train, marched over fields and taken to a cleared area to begin constructing their camps. Only one-fourth of the materials used in the camp's construction was actually carried by rail to the site; the bulk were brought in by truck or wagon on the country road. By November of 1917, all officers and enlisted men of the 29th Division, totaling 27,753 individuals, had arrived. Training at the camp was hard. Community relations were forged with the election of a town representative, W. P. Acker, to deal with the military. When the 1st Separate Negro Company of Maryland arrived, they were promptly introduced to the African-American community of Anniston to avoid the racial tension that occurred during the Spanish-American War (MacGregor 1985: 7). By February of 1919, 1,534 buildings had been constructed at the division camp, plus 118 associated with the hospital, 28 built by military organizations, and 16 built by societies. The hospital was imposing, with single ward buildings aligned in four columns and joined through walkways. The whole area was bounded by a circular street pattern and sited on an elongated knoll, ostensibly to ward off contamination and noise. This hill would later become the Post Headquarters area.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section Number 8 Page 7

**Fort McClellan Post Headquarters District  
Calhoun County, AL**

In the 1920's the incredible expansion of the previous decade was cut back, permanent construction was discouraged, and maintenance on a reduced budget became the Quartermaster Corps' primary mission. As the World War I camps began to fall into disrepair, the mood of the public began to swing in the direction of increased funding. In 1924 Secretary of War John Weeks submitted a long-range plan to Congress to replace temporary structures with permanent barracks, quarters, and hospitals and updated water and sewage systems. The Construction Service was awarded \$126 million by Congress between 1926 and 1930 and talented men were recruited to fill the ranks of the Quartermaster Corps. Major General B. Frank Cheatham's vision of a new program of post development resulted in a period of successful and healthy growth which included Camp McClellan, now Fort McClellan, by authority of a 1929 War Department order. Army Chief of Staff General Charles P. Summerall, who had negotiated the camp's purchase in 1917, was also influential in attaining its permanency as a Regular Army Post for one regiment of Infantry. Three infantry barracks were completed by February 1930 to be followed by quarters for officers and non-commissioned officers. Two Montgomery contractors were chosen for the first projects with laborers' pay ranging from \$1.60 to \$8.00 per day depending on the skill level. All of the unskilled laborers were African-American while the majority of skilled laborers were white.

The intensity of the Depression halted further progress while military spending was curtailed in 1933. President Franklin D. Roosevelt launched the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) and the Public Works Administration (PWA) to help stem unemployment. These programs and others which followed benefited construction at military posts across the country by channeling funds into relief programs which created and sustained work for the Construction Division. In 1936 and 1937 W.P.A. workers constructed the Enlisted Men's Service Club, the gymnasium, assembly hall auditorium (Hutchinson Hall), the main post exchange, the officers' club now called Remington Hall, Silver Chapel, stables, garages, and numerous other buildings and structures ranging from coal trestles to warehouses to utilities, streets and lighting. Funds were also used to dismantle temporary structures and to move and reassemble the housing known as the Rock Cottages to another site. New Deal programs defined and enhanced the post and provided work to the unemployed. In many ways the 1937 fort was a new and improved version of the 1919 camp. The layout of the permanent buildings was essentially grafted upon a site plan and design brought into reality in the haste of 1917. A strict grid arrangement was absent and streets and occupation areas conformed to the topography.

The 1930's post also benefited from the expertise of city planners, modern architects and landscape architects who were consulted and hired by General Cheatham to improve the beauty as well as the function of the new fort. George B. Ford's hand is evident in the plans of a score of other posts of that generation including Fort Benning in Georgia. Lt. H. B. Nurse (1928: 15) gave the theoretical framework with which the posts were planned, citing five laws of design that are portrayed in nature: Unity, Consonance in Design, Diversity, Balance, and Radiation. Also considered were the three elements of Army posts: operation, administration, and housing. Buildings would be styled in one theme, surrounded by open spaces, and connected by broad main arteries and local streets of various plans and widths which followed natural contours. Plans were not simply generated in Washington, but each post commander and Corps Area Commander had an active voice in the planning process from the beginning. Land use zoning regulations were being developed in the United States in the 1920's. Posts would be divided into areas grouped by function and it was the planner's task to unify the whole. Ford was interested in creating an environment that would be a healthy place to bring up children. Cheatham also suggested that posts have individual programs for landscaping.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section Number 8 Page 8

**Fort McClellan Post Headquarters District  
Calhoun County, AL**

Barracks were usually the first buildings constructed and these were typically three stories in height and 450 feet in length with a skeleton frame of reinforced concrete and an exterior finished in regional styles. Modern conveniences included up-to-date kitchens, lavatories and recreation rooms. When General Cheatham asked the wives of officers and non-commissioned officers about their housing preferences, they overwhelmingly endorsed single family homes. Interior arrangements and number of bedrooms were configured according to rank and were fairly standardized. A statutory limit was placed on how much could be spent on each type of house. The Design Branch deemed Georgian Revival and Spanish Colonial Revival styles appropriate to certain regions of the country. While bases in New England tended to have brick exteriors and slate roofs, stucco exteriors and tile roofs were more common in their Southern counterparts. Climatic conditions were also considered. By 1946, Fort McClellan would be divided into at least five defined areas: the Post Headquarters Area, the Warehouse area, the Railhead area, the Hospital area, and the Magazine Area. The Post Headquarters District stands out as a compact and cohesive example of the implementation of Cheatham's ideas and Ford's plans for the new type of military community.

The updated installation was used by infantry units, ROTC units, National Guard units and as headquarters for supervising 45 CCC camps in the Southeast. The 1940's brought a second boom period for Fort McClellan directly related to world events. The Selective Service bill of 1940 was passed on the condition that the draft would commence once proper arrangements were made for the draftees' housing, sanitation and medical care (American Public Works Association 1976: 596). McClellan was placed within the second tier of forts to be ready by October 1940. The 1940's saw the careful evolution of functional areas, but the areas which housed troops remained situated as they were in 1937, albeit with more buildings. Units remained intact within their separate camps. A civilian village was added between 1937 and 1946, and this residential area was laid out similar to the post command area. A traffic circle was added by the fire house. The base plan still retained the overall look of the 1917 camp, with the main areas still clustered around the railroad spur while the battalion areas remained in block formation stretching to the north and south. Standardization in building design was practiced in World War I but truly refined during the second World War. In addition to the temporary buildings constructed during this period, the fort was expanded to the east and west. The policy set by the Quartermaster's Office was to hire local/regional firms capable of meeting the standards set by the government.

The 27th Division, a National Guard unit from New York, trained at Fort McClellan with a new three-phase program devised by the War Department to test field operations. The city of Anniston continued to have a close and harmonious relationship with the troops by having public dances in their honor, bringing women from local colleges to the events, and staging vaudeville shows and boxing events. Local churches provided clubrooms for the soldiers. After the 27th Division left for the Pacific, the Basic Immaterial Training Center (BIRTC) was formed to give recruits eight weeks of basic training before being sent to specialized units for combat or other training. This was replaced in 1943 by the Infantry Replacement Training Center (IRTC). While an African-American division (the 92nd) was stationed at Fort McClellan, the Army still rigidly held to a segregationist policy with blacks being housed and fed in separate facilities. The two detachments of Women's Army Corps (one white and one black) were given clerical roles, handled the motor pool, and worked in bakeries, service clubs, mess and supply (Lane 1955: 25). The housing for women was considered "separate, but better" than that given to male soldiers. In 1955 McClellan would become the first permanent home of the WAC.



**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Fort McClellan Post Headquarters District  
Calhoun County, AL**

Section Number 8,9 Page 9

Fort McClellan's POW camp was completed in May 1943 west of the Headquarters area with a standard layout for up to 3,000 individuals. It had three sections with rows of 20-man barracks in each section. The barracks were shotgun-like buildings with dimensions of twenty by forty feet. The camp was essentially self contained with kitchens, orderly rooms, dayrooms, dispensaries, a chapel, library, reading room, stage, and athletic fields. Most of the men interned at McClellan worked on the post and some were involved with local employers in the agricultural and industrial sectors who contracted out for their labor. In their off hours and in jobs assigned to them on post, POWs created a substantial legacy at Fort McClellan in the realms of masonry and art as well as less visible improvements. Stone walls, chimneys, patios, drainage ditches, and landscaping are credited to the prisoners, as well as the carved bar at the Officers' Club and the murals which decorate its walls. Unfortunately the bar was replaced sometime after 1982. The murals still exist and they range from the genteel to the disturbing, covering the upper five feet of wall space on each wall. Whether they present a single storyline or a variety of themes is arguable. On walls with doors, the painters framed their work around the door, making an obstacle an asset. They are clearly the work of several individuals, with some scenes showing more mastery over the art than others. The murals were purportedly begun in 1943 and finished in 1945 by a group of Germans whose names are unknown. Mixing twentieth century elements with traditional folkloric, and possibly operatic and biblical themes, the artists created a room with views that have incredible power. Where setting is shown, the painters tried to maintain consonance with the Spanish flavor of the building. The themes suggest that the POW's were allowed to paint whatever topic they chose. Because few Americans would choose these views as a backdrop for social drinking, they were paneled over from the 1950's until the late 1970's when they were uncovered by Warrant Officer Von Helberg who led in their restoration. Unfortunately one of the murals which was repainted on the west wall was not guided by the original.

Since 1945 Fort McClellan has undergone changes in mission and facilities, and has on occasion had to fight for its very survival as an active fort, but the Post Headquarters District has maintained its character and integrity as an intact example of community planning in the context of military architecture between the two World Wars. It is also a visible symbol of the successful relationship between the military installation and the community of Anniston. The post has played a significant role in local political and economic history and it has provided a connection between a small Alabama town and the national preparations for war.

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This nomination form is based partly on a two-volume historic building inventory prepared in 1993 by New South Associates, Inc. of Stone Mountain, Georgia, and ERC Environmental and Energy Services Co., Inc. of Knoxville, Tennessee. Volume II of that report contains HABS inventory forms on all pre-1942 buildings at Fort McClellan. The report was submitted to the US Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile, Alabama. Some sections of that report are included verbatim in this nomination, which was also produced by New South Associates. References used for both are included in the following list.

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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section Number 9 Page 10

Fort McClellan Post Headquarters District  
Calhoun County, AL

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**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section Number 9 Page 11

**Fort McClellan Post Headquarters District  
Calhoun County, AL**

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**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section Number 9 Page 12

**Fort McClellan Post Headquarters District  
Calhoun County, AL**

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**National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Section Number 9 Page 13

**Fort McClellan Post Headquarters District**  
**Calhoun County, AL**

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**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section Number 9,10 Page 14

**Fort McClellan Post Headquarters District  
Calhoun County, AL**

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**10. Verbal Boundary Description**

Boundaries are indicated on the attached map.

**Verbal Boundary Justification**

The boundaries include the most significant concentration of buildings in the headquarters area which were constructed during the period of significance. The field area south of 20th Street is now cluttered with small new buildings and structures associated the athletic fields and that area no longer maintains its historic appearance. The southern boundary extends from 20th Street across the field north of the gym (Building 130) to Summerall Gate Road to include the Fire Station (Building 69) and Buildings 161 through 163 which are all integral parts of the district. Buildings

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section Number 10 Page 15

**Fort McClellan Post Headquarters District  
Calhoun County, AL**

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21 through 30 are nonconforming 1950's construction on the edge of the district, but the landscape and setting made it necessary to include them in the boundaries. All other boundaries correspond with roads or natural features as indicated on the boundary map.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section Number \_\_\_\_\_ Page 16

**Fort McClellan Post Headquarters District  
Calhoun County, AL**

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**Maps**

- Map 1. Fort McClellan Post Headquarters District showing location of UTM references.  
Source: U.S.G.S. Quadrangle: Anniston, Ala. 1956 (PR 1972).
- Map 2. Fort McClellan Post Headquarters District Boundaries.  
Source: U.S. Army, Fort McClellan, Alabama.
- Map 3. Fort McClellan Post Headquarters District showing location and direction of photographs.  
Source: U.S. Army, Fort McClellan, Alabama.



**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section Number \_\_\_\_\_ Page 17

**Fort McClellan Post Headquarters District  
Calhoun County, AL**

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**Photographs**

The following applies to all photographs:

Name of Property: Fort McClellan Post Headquarters District  
County and State: Calhoun County, Alabama  
Photographer: Denise P. Messick  
Negatives Filed: Mobile District Corps of Engineers  
Date Photographed: June, 1994

**Description and Vantage Point of Photographs:**

- Photo 1. View across parade ground of Buildings 141 and 142. View northwest.
- Photo 2. View across parade ground of Building 143. View north.
- Photo 3. Typical street light in district. Parade ground. View northeast..
- Photo 4. Silver Chapel (Building 67). View north.
- Photo 5. View across park of Officers's Housing on Buckner Circle. View northwest.
- Photo 6. Gazebo or band stand (Structure 170). View northwest.
- Photo 7. Officers' Club (Building 51). View north.
- Photo 8. Officer's Housing (Building 17). View west.
- Photo 9. Officer's Housing (Building 14). View west.
- Photo 10. View from Jarvis Street of Building 61 in foreground, Building 143 in background. View south/southeast.
- Photo 11. View of Post Headquarters (Building 61) with Building 143 in background. View south/southwest.
- Photo 12. View of park and gazebo (Structure 170). View north/northwest.
- Photo 13. View of gazebo (Structure 170) and Officer's Housing. View northeast.
- Photo 14. View of main entrance to Building 63 (formerly a hospital). View west.
- Photo 15. View across park to gazebo (Structure 170). View northwest.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

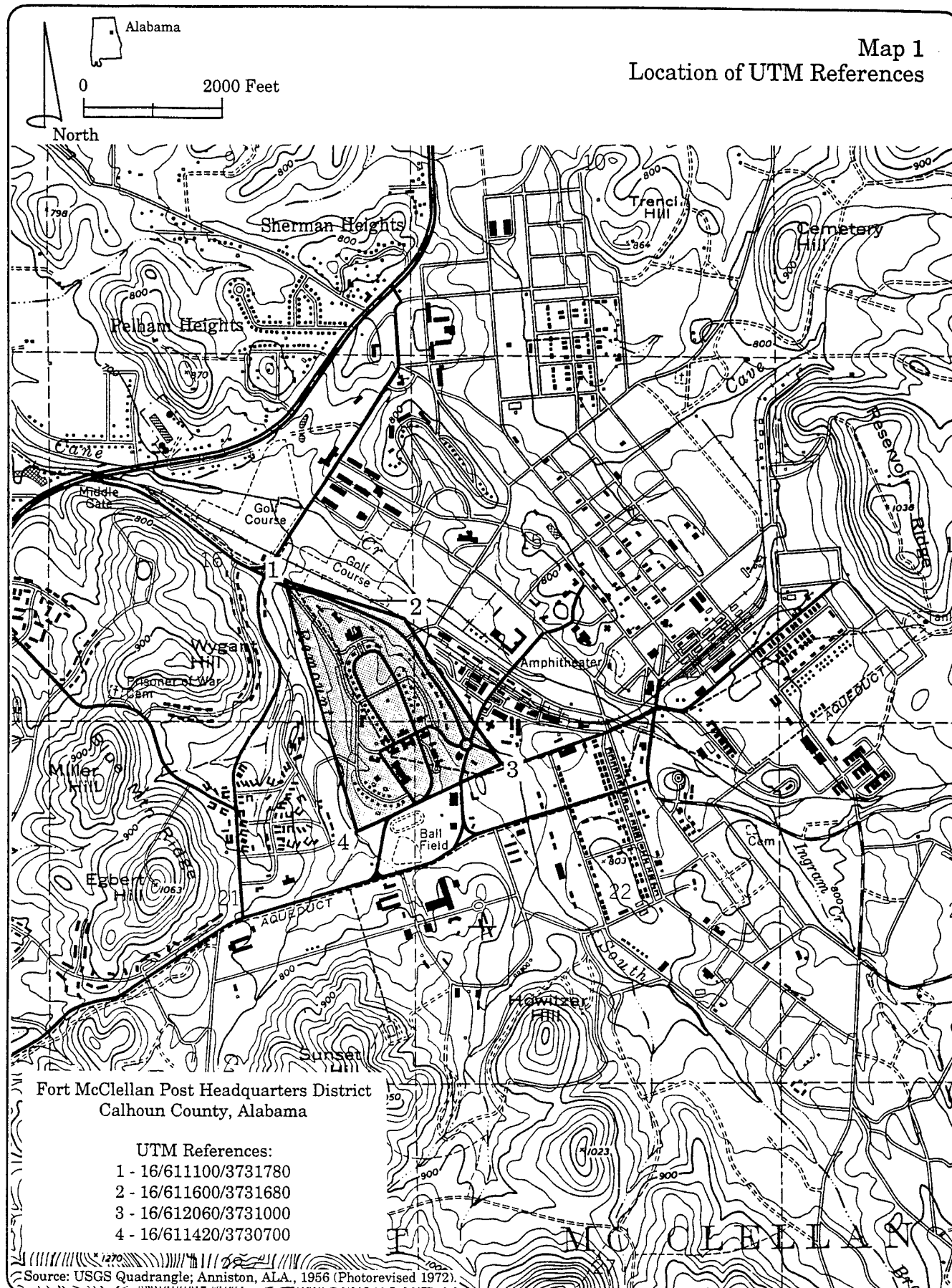
Section Number \_\_\_\_\_ Page 18

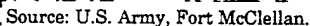
**Fort McClellan Post Headquarters District  
Calhoun County, AL**

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- Photo 16. View of Buildings 161 and 162. View southeast.
- Photo 17. View across parade ground of Buildings 141, 142 and 143. View northwest.
- Photo 18. Building 66. View northwest.
- Photo 19. Garage for N.C.O. Housing (Building 196). View west/northwest.
- Photo 20. View of Drennen Drive, N.C.O. Housing. View east.
- Photo 21. N.C.O. Housing (Building 90). View northwest.
- Photo 22. View of Drennan Drive and N.C.O. Housing. View east.
- Photo 23. View of traffic circle and Center Fire Station (Building 69). View east/southeast.
- Photo 24. Center Fire Station (Building 69). View west.
- Photo 25. Center Fire Station (Building 69). View west/southwest.
- Photo 26. View of 1950s Housing, east of district boundary (Buildings 28-30). View north.
- Photo 27. View of rear facade of Silver Chapel (Building 67). View west.
- Photo 28. Building 144. View west/southwest.
- Photo 29. Building 28, east of district boundary. View east/northeast.
- Photo 30. View of Officers' Housing on Buckner Circle. View east/north east.
- Photo 31. View of Buckner Circle, Buildings 1-4. View northeast.
- Photo 32. Officer's Housing, Building 4. View northeast.
- Photo 33. Silver Chapel, front facade (Building 67). View east/northeast.
- Photo 34. Buildings 161 and 162. View northeast.
- Photo 35. Buildings 162 and 163. View northeast.
- Photo 36. Buildings 161 and 162. View northeast.

# Map 1

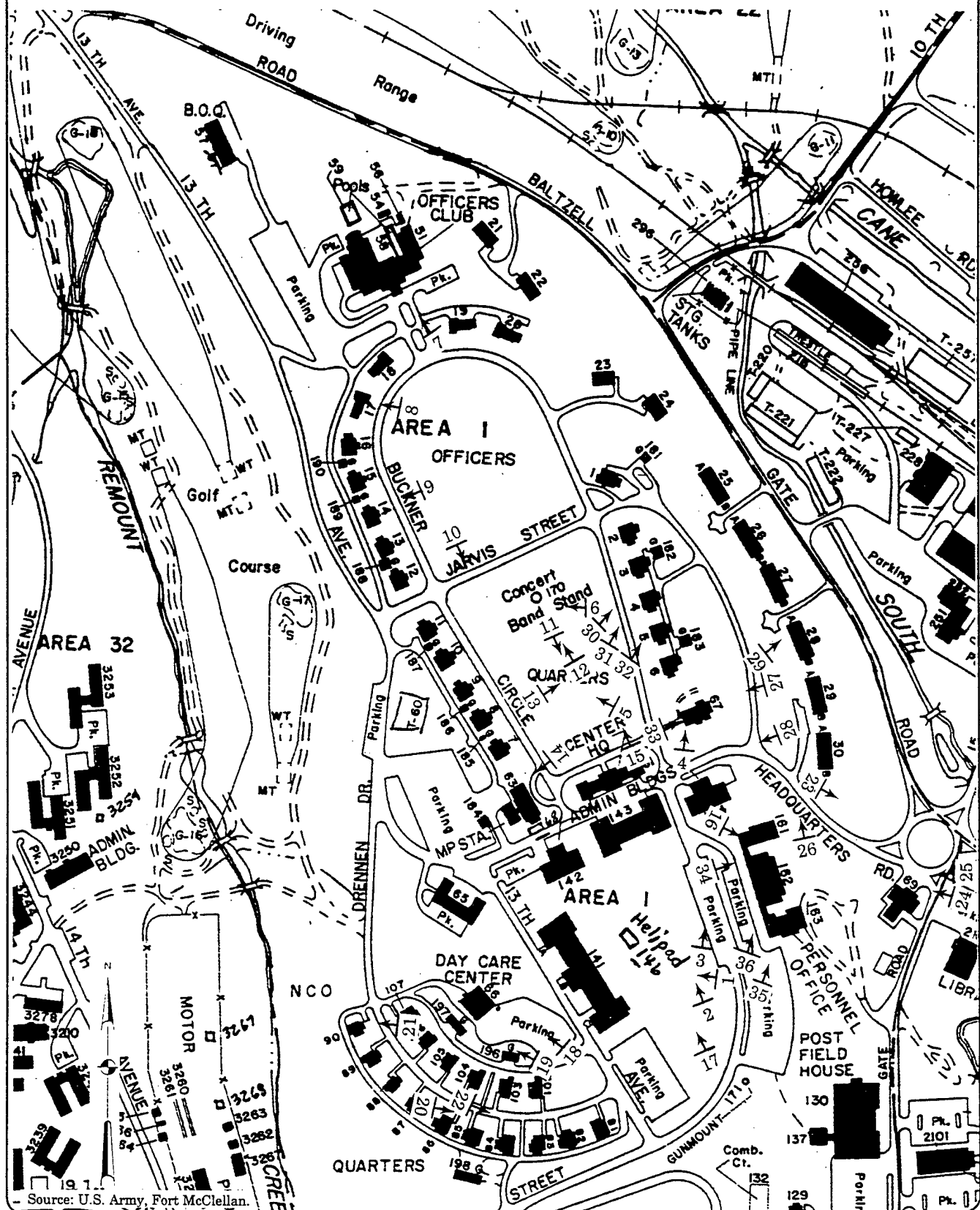
## Location of UTM References





0 400 Feet

Map 3  
Location and Direction of Photographs



Source: U.S. Army, Fort McClellan.



Photo 1

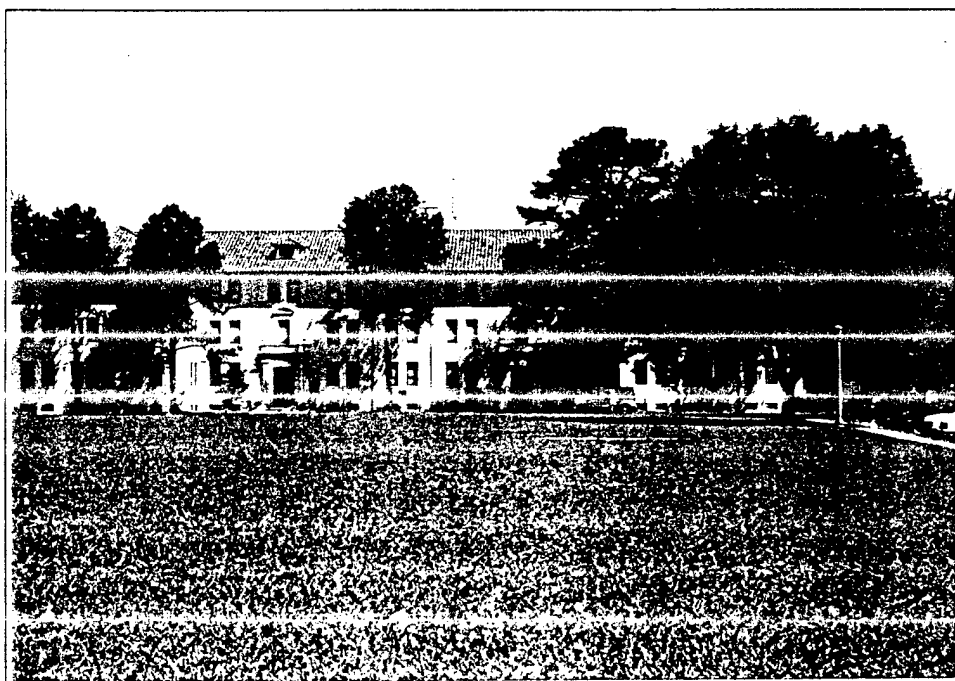


Photo 2



Photo 5

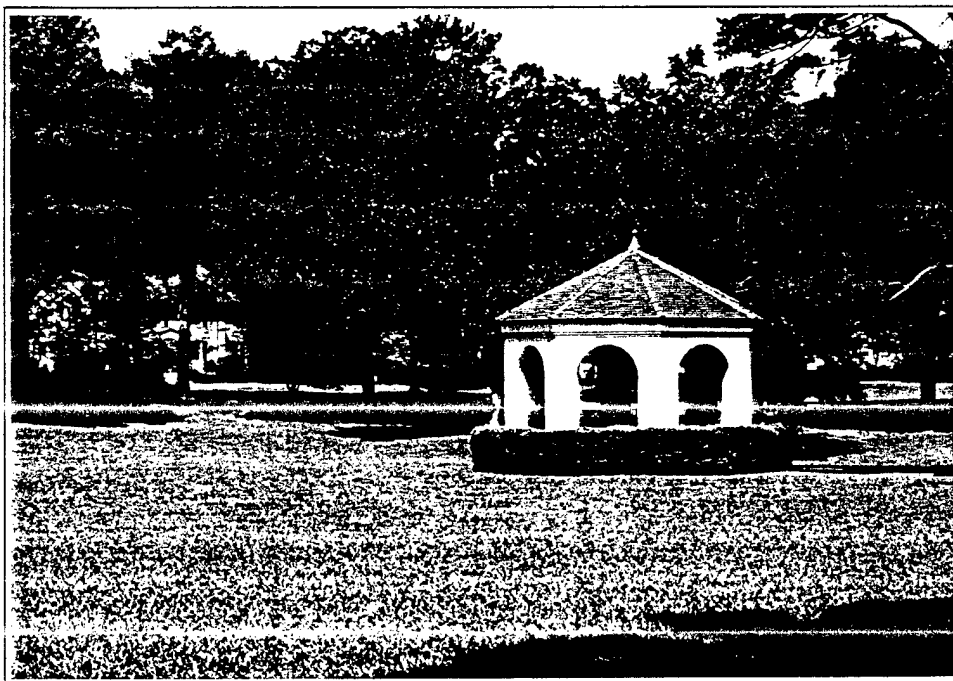


Photo 6

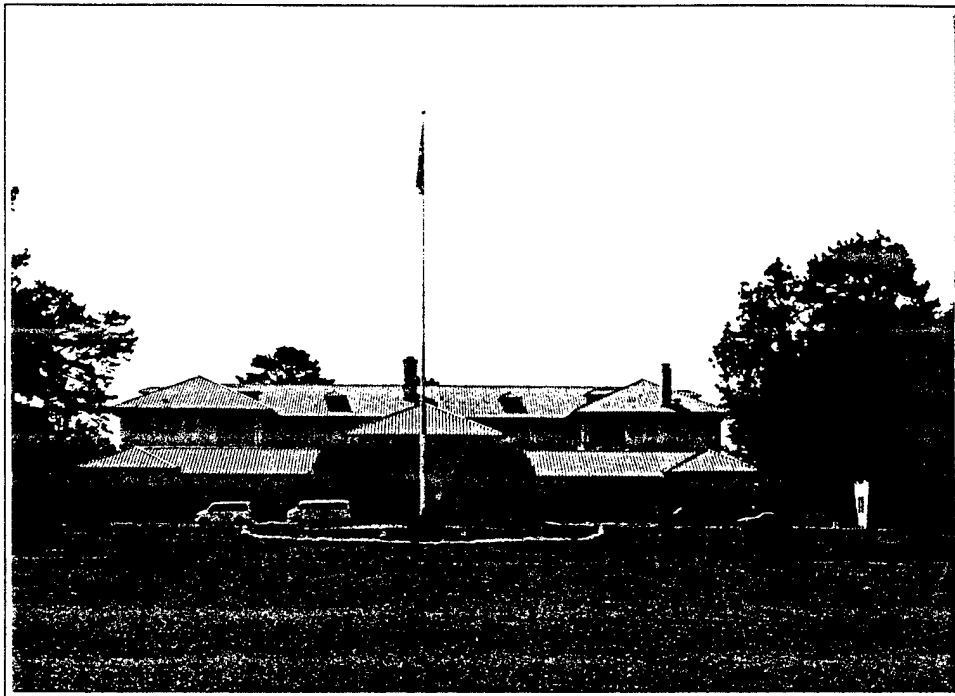


Photo 11



Photo 12



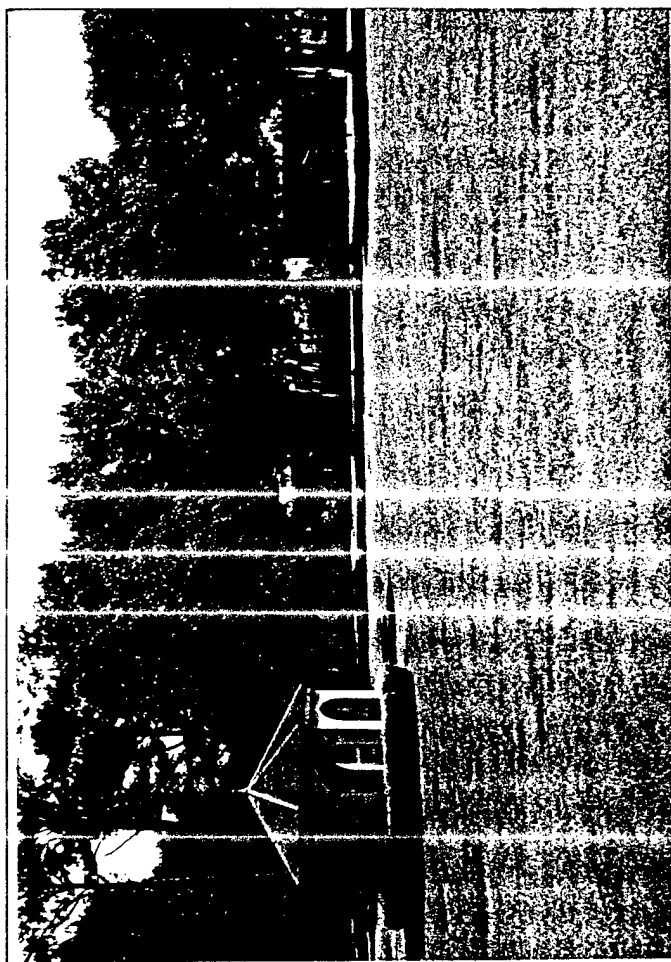


Photo 13



Photo 14



Photo 15

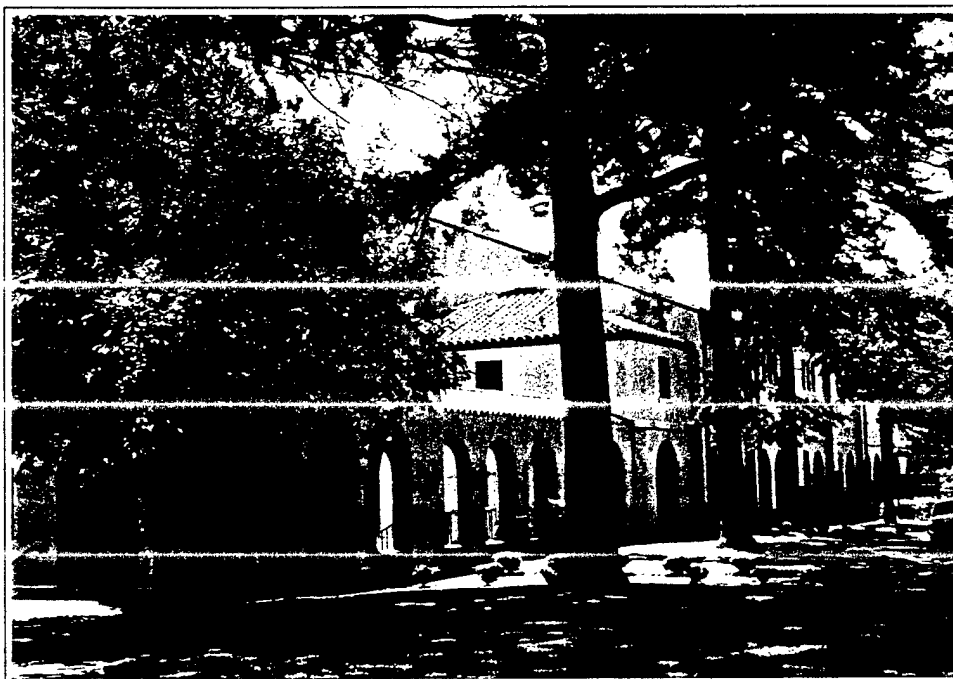


Photo 16

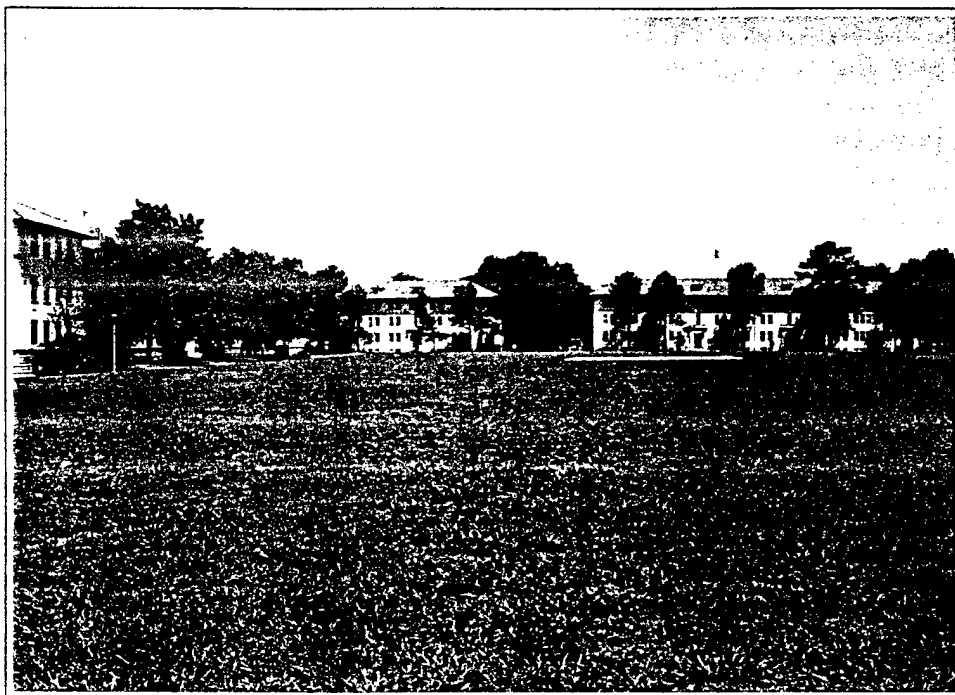


Photo 17



Photo 18

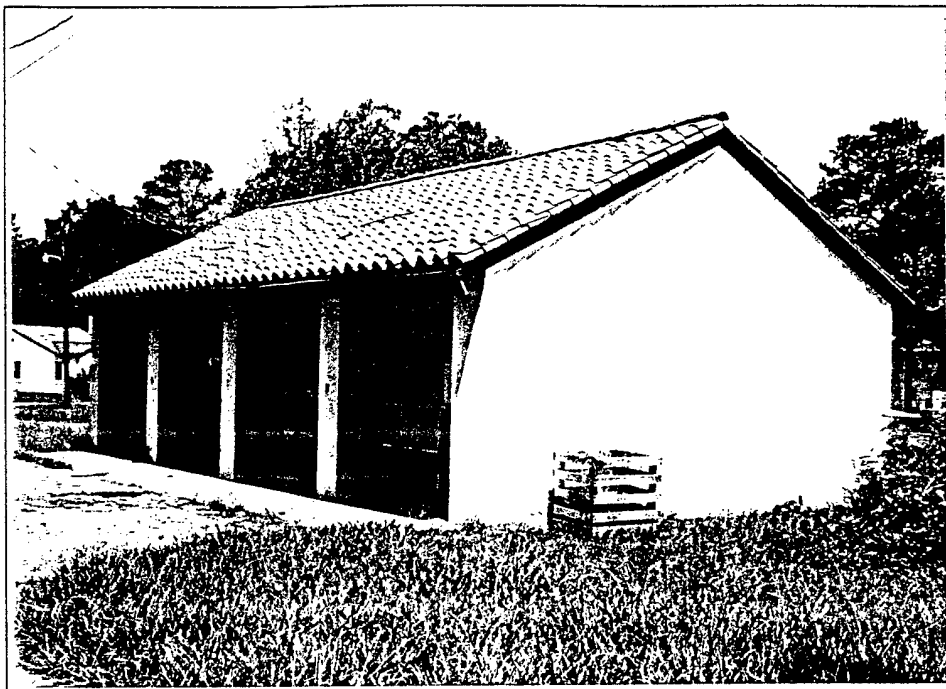


Photo 19



Photo 20



Photo 21



Photo 22



Photo 23



Photo 24

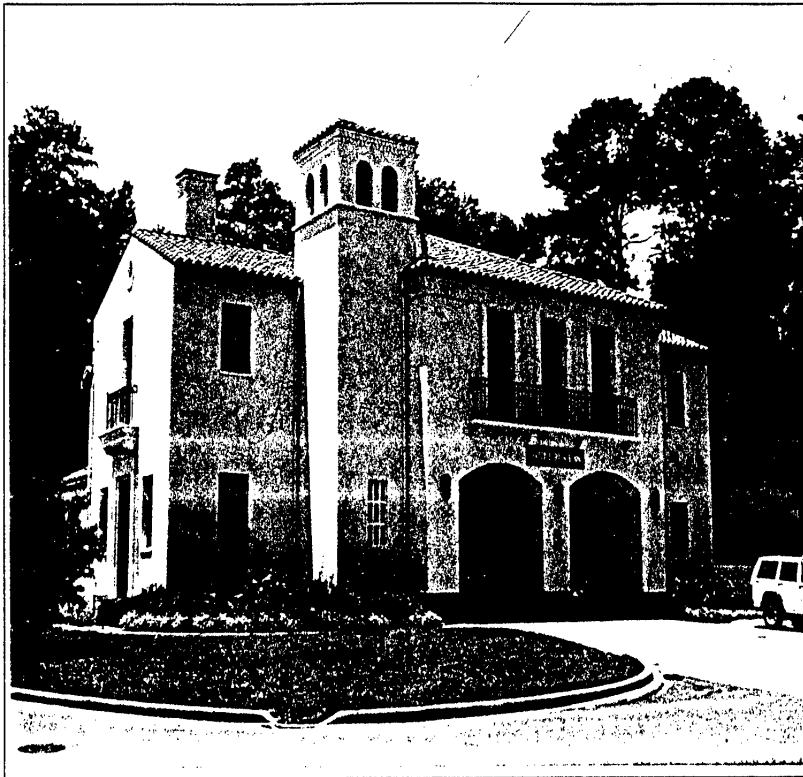


Photo 25



Photo 26



Photo 27



Photo 28





Photo 29

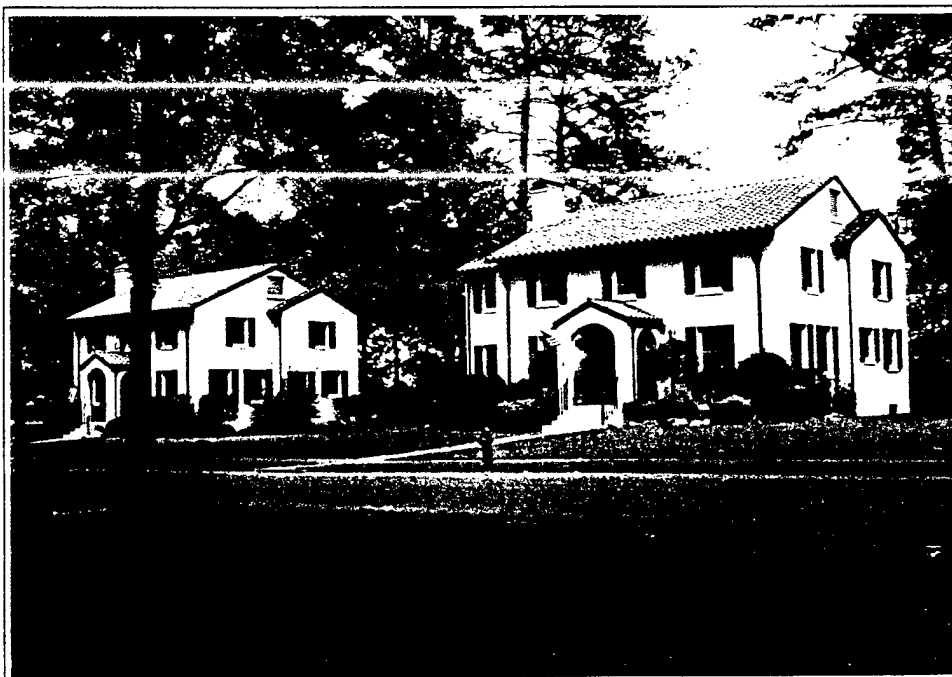


Photo 30



Photo 31



Photo 32

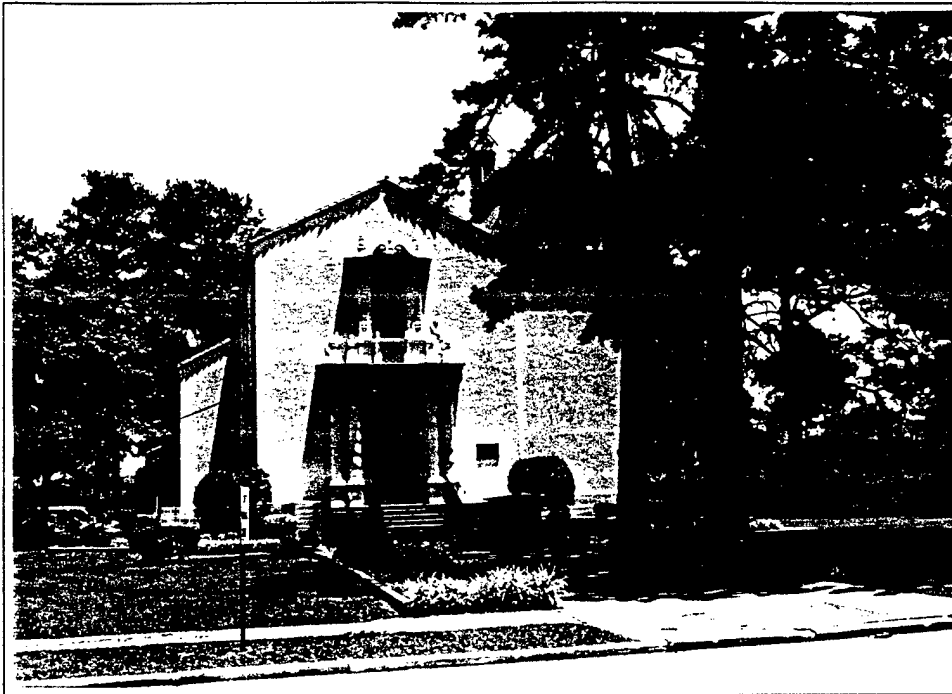


Photo 33

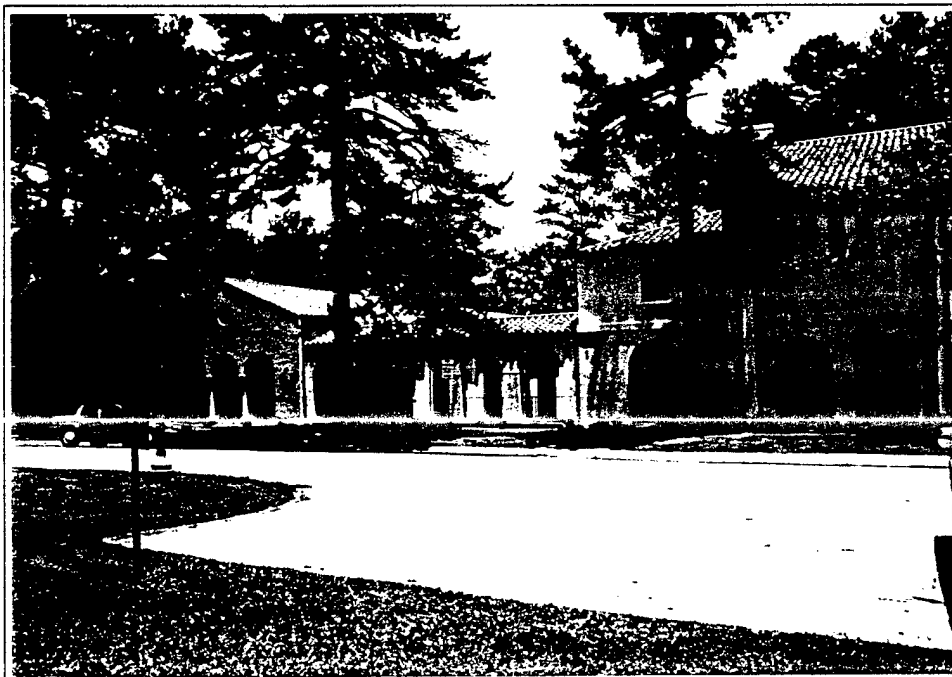


Photo 34

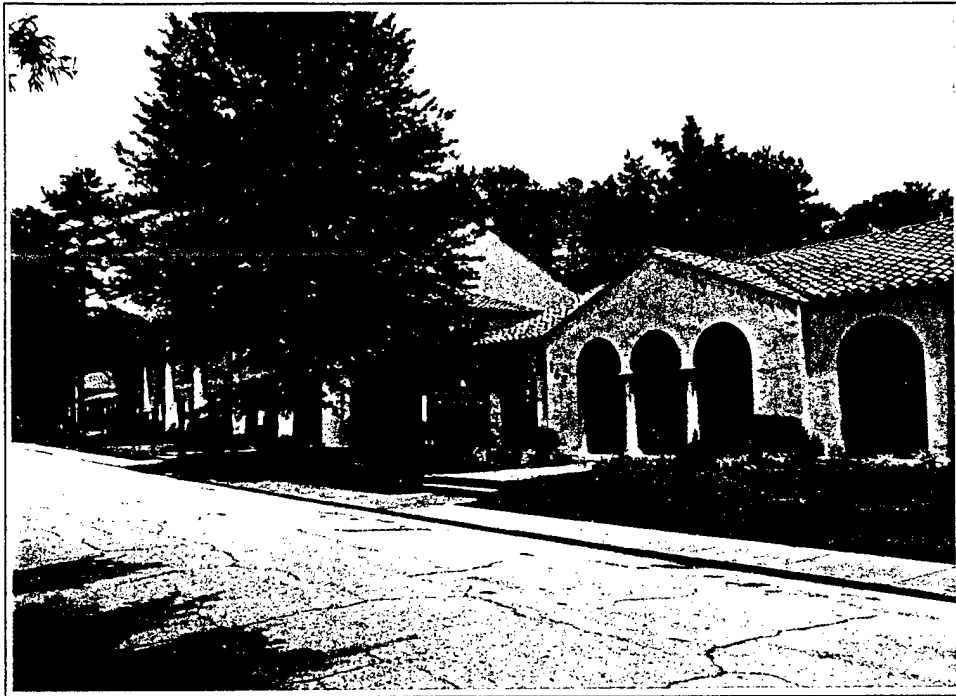


Photo 35

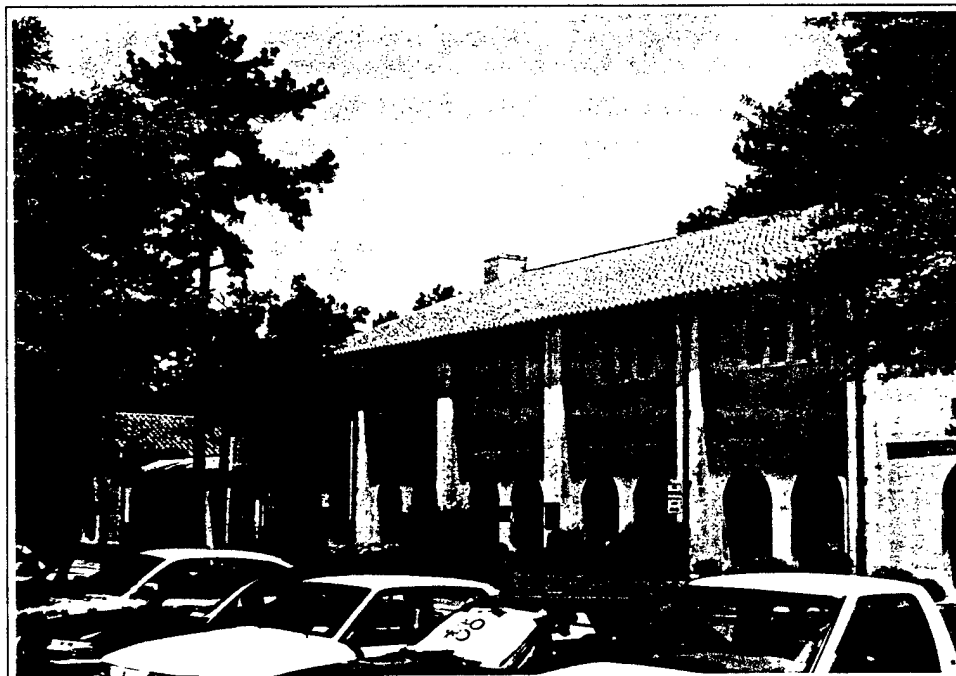


Photo 36

## Appendix B

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**Draft National Register Nomination:**

**Fort McClellan Industrial District**

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

## 1. Name of Property

historic name Fort McClellan Industrial District

other names/site number N/A

## 2. Location

street & number \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ not for publication

city or town Fort McClellan ☐ vicinity

state Alabama code AL county Calhoun code 015 zip code 36205

## 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this ☐ nomination ☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☐ locally. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State of Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

## 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

☐ entered in the National Register.  
☐ See continuation sheet.

☐ determined eligible for the  
National Register  
☐ See continuation sheet.

☐ determined not eligible for the  
National Register.

☐ removed from the National  
Register.

☐ other, (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**5. Classification****Ownership of Property**

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- ☐ private  
☐ public-local  
☐ public-State  
☒ public-Federal

**Category of Property**

(Check only one box)

- ☐ building(s)  
☒ district  
☐ site  
☐ structure  
☐ object

**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
17	3	buildings
0		sites
1		structures
0		objects
18	3	Total

**Name of related multiple property listing**

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

0

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

0

**6. Function or Use****Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Defense: Military Facility  
 Commerce/Trade: Warehouse  
 Industry/Processing/Extraction: Warehouse

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Defense: Military Facility  
 Commerce/Trade: Warehouse  
 Industry/Processing/Extraction: Warehouse

**7. Description****Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Modern Movement  
 Other: Utilitarian  
 Colonial Revival

**Materials**

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete  
 walls Brick  
 roof Asphalt, Asbestos, Slate  
 other Concrete  
 Wood

**Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

**8. Statement of Significance****Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- ☒ **A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ☐ **B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☒ **C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ **D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

**Criteria Considerations**

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- ☐ **A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ **B** removed from its original location.
- ☐ **C** a birthplace or grave.
- ☐ **D** a cemetery.
- ☐ **E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ **F** a commemorative property.
- ☐ **G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

**9. Major Bibliographical References****Bibliography**

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Military

Community Planning and Development

**Period of Significance**

1917-1945

**Significant Dates**

N/A

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

U.S. Army

**Primary location of additional data:**

- ☒ State Historic Preservation Office
- ☐ Other State agency
- ☒ Federal agency
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other

Name of repository:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile Dist



Name of Property \_\_\_\_\_

County and State \_\_\_\_\_

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Approx. 22

### UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	1 6	6 1 1 6 3 0	3 7 3 1 5 8 0
	Zone	Easting	Northing
2	1 6	6 1 1 7 4 0	3 7 3 1 6 4 0

3	1 6	6 1 2 5 6 0	3 7 3 1 1 8 0
	Zone	Easting	Northing
4	1 6	6 1 2 0 8 0	3 7 3 1 0 2 0

☐ See continuation sheet

### Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

### Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Denise P. Messick

organization New South Associates

date 9-19-94

street & number 6150 East Ponce de Leon Ave.

telephone (404) 498-4155

city or town Stone Mountain,

state GA

zip code 30083

### Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

### Continuation Sheets

### Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

### Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

### Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

### Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name \_\_\_\_\_

street & number \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_

city or town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section Number 7 Page 1

**Fort McClellan Industrial District  
Calhoun County, AL**

**7. Description**

Fort McClellan occupies a mostly level, well-drained area in the Choccolocco Valley at the foot of the Appalachian Highlands near Anniston, Alabama. The present configuration is based on a 1917 layout which influenced a 1920's plan to transform the post into a military community and to adopt spatial divisions according to functional areas of "reasonable concentration." Begun in 1917 as a National Guard camp, the fort was granted permanent status in 1929 and began a ten year expansion program at that time. Fort McClellan is one of a generation of forts to first use standardized building plans drawn by the Quartermaster Corps with shared perceptions of layout, style, design and landscape. Strongly influenced by the City Beautiful Movement, the new posts were planned to suit all facets of military life, providing for the single soldier as well as the military family.

Elements of the historic fort are still well defined within the Industrial District which has a combination of storage, transportation and industrial functions. The buildings in this area have a simple utilitarian styling set against a rugged mountainous backdrop. Most are brick with cast stone or concrete trim and asphalt shingle roofing. In contrast, the buildings of the same generation on the hill in the nearby Post Headquarters area are Spanish Colonial Revival in style. Pocketed between Cane Creek and South Branch, the industrial buildings are arranged in linear fashion along the railroad spur with the buildings related to transportation immediately adjacent. The railroad, essential to the supply of materials and equipment to the fort, was the focal point of the industrial activities undertaken at Fort McClellan. When first constructed, the railroad was the primary means used for the shipment of men, equipment and materials.

Completion dates for buildings in the district range from 1932 to 1941. These buildings were constructed to standardized plans developed initially by the Quartermaster Corps and later updated as needed by the Corps of Engineers. Some were projects of federal government relief programs created to provide civilian work in the years of the Depression. During this time the fort area was expanded, creeks were channeled, and buffers were established between areas. Some of the stonework in the district, including a small foot bridge over South Branch Creek and the walls of the channeled creek, may have been constructed by German prisoners of war during World War II. In contrast to the Post Headquarters Area, landscaping was not a priority in the Industrial Area. A 1940's photograph of 15th Street shows that it had street lamps like Post Headquarters, but it had virtually no trees.

Buildings identified by number are keyed to the accompanying maps and to a historic building inventory of Fort McClellan submitted to the US Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District, in June 1993. Industrial buildings include: a coal trestle (Building 216), an Electrical Maintenance Shop (Building 228), Clothing (Military) Sales Building (Buildings 229 and 230), the Technical Maintenance Shop (Building 236), the Cold Storage Building (Building 246), Warehouse/Laundry (Building 247) and the Communications Building (Building 252). The sub-area relating to transportation had stables and garages including Buildings 234, 237, 238, 240, 242, 243, and 244. The 1930's layout is remarkably intact with few intrusions.

Both the warehouse and transportation areas were first established in 1917 by Constructing Quartermaster Colonel Charles Dulin and supervising engineer Maurice R. Scharff with four divisional storehouses set lengthwise along the tracks. Four narrow stables were sited to the

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section Number 7 Page 2

**Fort McClellan Industrial District  
Calhoun County, AL**

southwest of the storehouses at an angle. Later planners would simply intensify this area of concentration and enclose the buildings so they would not be visually intrusive. A 1937 map shows a park and canal on the west and a golf course, nursery and field on the east. Pocketed inside this buffer zone, warehouses were placed in a linear fashion along the railroad spur while the stables and garages were away from the rails in a pattern reminiscent of the 1919 arrangement. Since horses were kept in this area, fenced pastures and corrals were also a part of this district until after World War II.

Building 243, originally used as a stable, is one of the first permanent structures built in what became the motor pool area. Constructed in 1932 in a simplified version of the Colonial Revival style, it is a rectangular two-story brick building now used for storage. The other 1932 building in this area is the Technical Maintenance Shop (Building 236) which resembles two aircraft hangers set side by side with large multi-pane industrial windows. The exterior walls are structural clay tiles covered with stucco. Cast concrete was introduced as a decorative element on the gable parapet coping, lintel and sills. Building 244 was constructed in 1934 as an addition to the stable (Building 243) and it originally functioned as a blacksmith shop, work shop and stable guard's quarters. Building 247, a warehouse/laundry facility, was also constructed in 1934 with brick laid in common bond.

The next group of buildings were constructed in 1936 and 1937 by the Works Progress Administration (W.P.A.) under authorization of the Emergency Relief Act of 1935 and 1936. They include buildings 228, 229, 230, 234, 237, 238, 240, 241, 241A, 241B, 242 and 252. Utilitarian in appearance and function, their original uses included ordinance warehouses, regimental garage, machine gun and howitzer shed, wagon shed, blacksmith shop, quartermaster's warehouse, stables and bakery. Current uses are electrical maintenance shop, military clothing sales building, vehicle maintenance building, vehicle storage building, administration building, warehouses and communications center. Building 241 and 241 A-B was originally constructed as three separate structures and later the loading platform was enclosed with concrete block to form a single building with two wings. It still fulfills its original function as Quartermasters warehouse and storage. The area between Buildings 229 and 230 was also infilled when converted to a military clothing sales store. Building 252, the former bakery, has had substantial interior modifications to make a Communications Center and to connect it to Building 251.

Building 246 was constructed in 1941 as a cold storage plant for perishable foods. An addition was added to the east end in the 1960's along with other alterations to both the interior and exterior since original construction. Also of note in the district is the coal trestle which was built at the northern end of the industrial area in 1936. By then, Fort McClellan was the size of a small city, and coal, being the major source of energy, was required in large quantities. The trestle facilitated the unloading of coal from railway cars. Based on a standardized design developed by the Quartermaster's Office, it is raised about 15 feet above ground level on reinforced concrete columns. The trestle is no longer in use and the area below the trestle is used for storage.

The Industrial District was found to have 18 contributing buildings and structures and 3 non-contributing buildings. A detailed inventory follows. While a number of interiors have been altered due to changing uses, the area as a whole possesses high levels of integrity in terms of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. Fort McClellan has grown and expanded outward since the district's period of significance, but there have few major exterior alterations or additions to significant buildings or landscapes within the defined boundaries of the district. The continuity of use as a military post has contributed to its preservation. The Post

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section Number 7 Page 3

**Fort McClellan Industrial District  
Calhoun County, AL**

Headquarters District to the west is also being submitted as a separate National Register nomination with the same periods of construction and significance. A third potential historic district includes the magazines and the ammunitions storage area.

**INVENTORY OF CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS:**

**Building 228** (228 Transportation Drive)  
Electrical Maintenance Shop (completed 1936)  
Original Use: Ordinance Warehouse

**Buildings 229, 230** (229, 230 Fifteenth Street)  
Military Clothing Sales Building (completed 1937)  
Original Use: Ordinance Warehouse

**Building 234** (234 Transportation Drive)  
Vehicle Maintenance Building (completed 1936)  
Original Use: Regimental Garage

**Building 236** (236 Transportation Drive)  
Technical Maintenance Shop (completed 1932)  
Original Use: Garage and Repair Shop

**Building 237** (237 Transportation Drive)  
Vehicle Storage Building (completed 1936)  
Original Use: Machine Gun and Howitzer Shed

**Building 238** (238 Transportation Drive)  
Vehicle Storage Building (completed 1936)  
Original Use: Wagon Shed

**Building 240** (240 Transportation Drive)  
Administration Building (completed 1936)  
Original Use: Blacksmith Shop/ Stable Guard's Quarters

**Buildings 241, 241A, 241B** (241 Fifteenth Street)  
Administration/Warehouse (completed 1937)  
Original Use: Quartermasters Warehouse (originally three separate buildings)

**Building 242** (242 Transportation Drive)  
General Storehouse (completed 1936)  
Original Use: Stable

**Building 243** (243 Transportation Drive)  
Storage Building (completed 1932)  
Original Use: Quartermaster Stable

**Building 244** (244 Transportation Drive)  
Storage Building/Technical Shop (completed 1934)

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section Number 7,8 Page 4

**Fort McClellan Industrial District  
Calhoun County, AL**

Original Use: Addition to Quartermaster Stable

**Building 246** (246 Transportation Drive)  
Cold Storage Building (completed 1941)  
Original Use: same

**Building 247** (no address)  
Warehouse/Laundry (completed 1934)  
Original Use: same

**Building 252** (no address)  
Communications Center Building (completed 1936)  
Original Use: Bakery

**Structure 216** (no address)  
Coal Trestle (completed 1936)

TOTAL= 18 contributing buildings and structures

**NON-CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS:**

**Building 251** (no address)  
Telephone Exchange Building (completed 1959)

**Building T 233** (temporary building)  
Training Facility (completed 1934)

**Building T 245** (temporary building)  
Craft Shop (completed 1941)

TOTAL = 3 non-contributing buildings

**8. Statement of Significance**

The Fort McClellan Industrial District is significant in community planning and development as an important early example of the application of community design principles to standardized military construction. This 1930's breed of military posts was a deviation from previous patterns of grid development, although McClellan's World War I heritage also had an impact on the shape it was to take. The intervening period of neglect during the 1920's, a result of stringent federal cutbacks, was to be followed in 1926 by the largest military construction appropriation since the war. Major General B. Frank Cheatham, the Quartermaster General, began his program of nationwide post improvements in the late 1920's with an outstanding group of city planners, architects and landscape designers who were trained in the principles of the City Beautiful and Garden City movements. The internationally known city planning advisor to the War Department was George B. Ford who completed his architectural studies at the Ecole des Beaux Arts in Paris. He and other noted architects and planners, including Lt. Colonel Francis B. Wheaton (formerly of the renowned firm of McKim, Meade & White), Luther M. Leisenring and 1st Lt. Howard B. Nurse, consulted with post commanders to create functional areas that were unified by theme and integrated with the natural landscape features. These expenditures to create a permanent peacetime military

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section Number 8 Page 5

**Fort McClellan Industrial District  
Calhoun County, AL**

establishment came later to Fort McClellan than to its regional counterparts such as Fort Benning in Georgia, but they soon earned it a reputation as the military showplace of the South. During the Depression, the well-funded construction programs were replaced by assistance channeled through New Deal social programs, and these buildings also very much define the character of the Industrial District.

The construction boom of the 1930's took the location and embellished it with brick structures designed to handle transportation, storage, and distribution needs. With the European scene worsening through the 1930's, readiness for war was paramount. Warehouses were key to this preparedness, allowing the military to safely store items from munitions to uniforms. The Utilitarian style indicates that work was the primary task undertaken at this venue. Stables and garages typify the motor pool setting while storage and distribution facilities characterize the remainder. If the functions of a military post can be likened to that of a city, this grouping of historic structures emulates the industrial core. This area would be further developed during World War II with the addition of five temporary warehouses which still survive north of the railroad spur. These nearby buildings are not considered intrusions as they are functionally and stylistically consonant with the district's buildings.

The post's military significance derives from its roles in both world wars, first as a National Guard camp in 1917, and then as a permanent installation after 1928 with several divisions of soldiers later training there during World War II. These included the 92nd Division, which was the Army's second African-American division, as well two detachments of Women's Army Corps. The Prisoner of War (POW) camp established at Fort McClellan in June of 1943 also figures significantly into the history of the post. The German prisoners became a part of the labor pool and are credited with building stonework walls, landscape features and the exceptional murals which dress the Officers' Club walls. McClellan's evolution and transformation from hastily erected temporary structures to a permanent, planned community reflects the development of the United States military from World War I to World War II.

Fort McClellan's significance on the local level is unquestionable. The development of the fort in the twentieth century and the growth and success of its supporting community of Anniston are inextricably linked. The city of Anniston established not only the political framework which brought the military into the valley, but also helped to financially underwrite the purchase of the land on which the base sits. As early as World War I, the town had elected officials whose sole responsibility was to deal with the fort. The relationship between the two communities was noted as exemplary. At the beginning of the twentieth century, Anniston recognized that its future lay with Fort McClellan, and since that time the future of the two communities have been wed. The historic district at Fort McClellan, which embodies the military post as first developed, is a visual symbol of the union between community and military fortification. It is a distinct, cohesive entity whose individual elements may lack architectural grandeur, but as a group they strongly reflect their time and place and the processes which formed them.

**Historical Narrative and Context**

The twentieth century history of Fort McClellan is closely tied to that of nearby Anniston which was founded after the Civil War by the Woodstock Iron Company. Samuel Noble of Rome, Georgia, and General Daniel Tyler, a wealthy industrialist from Connecticut, set out to establish a model city, a progressive Southern town structured by industry. It was laid out on a grid plan on the valley floor adjacent to iron ore deposits. Trees were placed on major avenues to relieve the monotony and

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section Number 8 Page 6

Fort McClellan Industrial District  
Calhoun County, AL

parks were made part of the overall plan. The town was privately owned until 1883 and it enjoyed growth and prosperity until the depression of the 1890's. It began to actively look for ways to enliven its economy and, through pressure on influential members of Congress, was chosen as the location for Camp Shipp which occupied a site north of town on Blue Mountain from 1898 to 1899. By the time the reserve camp was closed, Anniston's iron making industry was being replaced by textile manufacturing and pipe making. In 1912 Congressman Fred L. Blackmon made advances toward the War Department to spur interest in the Choccolocco Mountains as a range for artillery training. The federal government decided in 1917 to purchase the property north of Anniston. The acquisition was orchestrated by the Anniston Chamber of Commerce and, under the purchase agreement, farmers were allowed to work their fields through the summer of 1917. When the Army needed the land sooner than expected, the Chamber underwrote the crop loss. A key factor in the success of Anniston's proposal was the cohesive manner in which they approached the military as a harmonious economic unit.

The events of 1917 compelled the hasty construction of a National Guard camp. War was declared on Germany on April 6th and the Selective Service Bill was passed on May 18th. The Cantonment Division of the Army was mandated to have 32 camps ready by September 1. Camp McClellan was one of the chosen thirty-two, a National Guard cantonment able to handle 27,152 soldiers. It was the first Southern installation named in honor of a Northerner, worse, the commander of the Union forces between 1861 and 1862 (*Atlanta Journal*, April 13, 1959). This challenge to Southern sensibilities was transcended in light of the economic boost the camp would inject into the town of Anniston. In Washington a cadre of volunteers formed a Committee on Emergency Construction, with William Starrett as chair, to set up a building program. These men included industrialists, construction experts, architects and others who managed the complicated process of preparing typical layouts and plans. Charles L. Dulin was the Constructing Quartermaster placed in charge of Camp McClellan. Dulin chose the site of the new camp in the northwestern quadrant after completing a survey of the reservation which considered topography and geography. No towns or villages were displaced since the land use had been mostly agricultural. The area was fairly level, well-drained, and connected by existing roads to Anniston and Jacksonville. It was also closest to the tracks of the Southern Railway.

The World War I post was laid out in 26 blocks designated as areas, each performing a specific function and containing a set number of buildings. The layout of buildings within each block, particularly those devoted to housing the infantry units, was highly regimented. The positioning of the blocks was not quite linear and appears to have been dependent on the most advantageous way to use the creeks and topographical features of the site. The logistics of establishing this incipient city were laboriously orchestrated by Colonel Dulin as he struggled with water supply, finding laborers, dealing with labor strikes, and the scientific management of labor, road construction and heavy rainfall. Soldiers would be delivered by train, marched over fields and taken to a cleared area to begin constructing their camps. Only one-fourth of the materials used in the camp's construction was actually carried by rail to the site; the bulk were brought in by truck or wagon on the country road. By November of 1917, all officers and enlisted men of the 29th Division, totaling 27,753 individuals, had arrived. Training at the camp was hard. Community relations were forged with the election of a town representative, W. P. Acker, to deal with the military. When the 1st Separate Negro Company of Maryland arrived, they were promptly introduced to the African-American community of Anniston to avoid the racial tension that occurred during the Spanish-American War (MacGregor 1985: 7). By February of 1919, 1,534 buildings had been constructed at the division camp, plus 118 associated with the hospital, 28 built by military organizations, and 16 built by societies. The hospital was imposing, with single ward buildings aligned in four columns and joined

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section Number 8 Page 7

**Fort McClellan Industrial District  
Calhoun County, AL**

through walkways. The whole area was bounded by a circular street pattern and sited on an elongated knoll, ostensibly to ward off contamination and noise. This hill would later become the Post Headquarters area.

In the 1920's the incredible expansion of the previous decade was cut back, permanent construction was discouraged, and maintenance on a reduced budget became the Quartermaster Corps' primary mission. As the World War I camps began to fall into disrepair, the mood of the public began to swing in the direction of increased funding. In 1924 Secretary of War John Weeks submitted a long-range plan to Congress to replace temporary structures with permanent barracks, quarters, and hospitals and updated water and sewage systems. The Construction Service was awarded \$126 million by Congress between 1926 and 1930 and talented men were recruited to fill the ranks of the Quartermaster Corps. Major General B. Frank Cheatham's vision of a new program of post development resulted in a period of successful and healthy growth which included Camp McClellan, now Fort McClellan, by authority of a 1929 War Department order. Army Chief of Staff General Charles P. Summerall, who had negotiated the camp's purchase in 1917, was also influential in attaining its permanency as a Regular Army Post for one regiment of Infantry. Three infantry barracks were completed by February 1930 to be followed by quarters for officers and non-commissioned officers. The first buildings in the Industrial District were a garage and stable, both completed in 1932.

The intensity of the Depression halted further progress while military spending was curtailed in 1933. President Franklin D. Roosevelt launched the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) and the Public Works Administration (PWA) to help stem unemployment. These programs and others which followed benefited construction at military posts across the country by channeling funds into relief programs which created and sustained work for the Construction Division. In 1936 and 1937 W.P.A. workers constructed warehouses, garages, stables, a wagon shed, bakery, blacksmith shop, coal trestle, and machine gun and howitzer shed in the Industrial District. They also built numerous buildings and structures in other areas plus utilities, streets and lighting. New Deal programs defined and enhanced the post and provided work to the unemployed. In many ways the 1937 fort was a new and improved version of the 1919 camp. The layout of the permanent buildings was essentially grafted upon a site plan and design brought into reality in the haste of 1917. A strict grid arrangement was absent and streets and occupation areas conformed to the topography.

The 1930's post also benefited from the expertise of city planners, modern architects and landscape architects who were consulted and hired by General Cheatham to improve the beauty as well as the function of the new fort. George B. Ford's hand is evident in the plans of a score of other posts of that generation including Fort Benning in Georgia. Lt. H. B. Nurse (1928: 15) gave the theoretical framework with which the posts were planned, citing five laws of design that are portrayed in nature: Unity, Consonance in Design, Diversity, Balance, and Radiation. Also considered were the three elements of Army posts: operation, administration, and housing. Buildings would be styled in one theme, surrounded by open spaces, and connected by broad main arteries and local streets of various plans and widths which followed natural contours. Plans were not simply generated in Washington, but each post commander and Corps Area Commander had an active voice in the planning process from the beginning. Land use zoning regulations were being developed in the United States in the 1920's. Posts would be divided into areas grouped by function and it was the planner's task to unify the whole. Ford was interested in creating an environment that would be a healthy place to bring up children. Cheatham also suggested that posts have individual programs for landscaping.



**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section Number 8 Page 8

**Fort McClellan Industrial District  
Calhoun County, AL**

Barracks were usually the first buildings constructed, followed by single family homes for officers' families. The Design Branch deemed Georgian Revival and Spanish Colonial Revival styles appropriate to certain regions of the country. While bases in New England tended to have brick exteriors and slate roofs, stucco exteriors and tile roofs were more common in their Southern counterparts. Climatic conditions were also considered. The Spanish Colonial Revival Style of the Post Headquarters Area did not extend to the more utilitarian areas such as the Industrial District of Fort McClellan. By 1946, Fort McClellan would be divided into at least five defined areas: the Post Headquarters Area, the Warehouse (or Industrial) Area, the Railhead Area, the Hospital Area, and the Magazine Area. The Industrial District stands out as a compact and cohesive example of the implementation of Cheatham's ideas and Ford's plans for functional divisions of space in the new military community.

The period between the two World Wars was a time of transition for the Army. While it appeared clear to many military experts that the future conduct of war would be fought with modern mechanized armies, others were reluctant to change. Thus airfields, garages, and stables were built during the same era. Even in the mid-1930's most of the new buildings constructed in the transportation area of Fort McClellan were focused on the horse. However, by the end of the Second World War the horse and mule had become symbolic. The buildings were converted in the early 1940's to accommodate a modern mechanized Army. Today the facilities are used for the storage and repair of automobiles and buses.

The updated installation was used by infantry units, ROTC units, National Guard units and as headquarters for supervising 45 CCC camps in the Southeast. The 1940's brought a second boom period for Fort McClellan directly related to world events. The Selective Service bill of 1940 was passed on the condition that the draft would commence once proper arrangements were made for the draftees' housing, sanitation and medical care (American Public Works Association 1976: 596). McClellan was placed within the second tier of forts to be ready by October 1940. The 1940's saw the careful evolution of functional areas, but the areas which housed troops remained situated as they were in 1937, albeit with more buildings. Units remained intact within their separate camps. A civilian village was added between 1937 and 1946, and this residential area was laid out similar to the post command area. A traffic circle was added by the fire house. The base plan still retained the overall look of the 1917 camp, with the main areas still clustered around the railroad spur while the battalion areas remained in block formation stretching to the north and south. Standardization in building design was practiced in World War I but truly refined during the second World War. In addition to the temporary buildings constructed during this period, the fort was expanded to the east and west. The policy set by the Quartermaster's Office was to hire local/regional firms capable of meeting the standards set by the government.

The 27th Division, a National Guard unit from New York, trained at Fort McClellan with a new three-phase program devised by the War Department to test field operations. The city of Anniston continued to have a close and harmonious relationship with the troops by having public dances in their honor, bringing women from local colleges to the events, and staging vaudeville shows and boxing events. Local churches provided clubrooms for the soldiers. After the 27th Division left for the Pacific, the Basic Immaterial Training Center (BIRTC) was formed to give recruits eight weeks of basic training before being sent to specialized units for combat or other training. This was replaced in 1943 by the Infantry Replacement Training Center (IRTC). While an African-American division (the 92nd) was stationed at Fort McClellan, the Army still rigidly held to a segregationist policy with blacks being housed and fed in separate facilities. The two detachments of Women's Army

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section Number 8,9 Page 9

**Fort McClellan Industrial District  
Calhoun County, AL**

Corps (one white and one black) were given clerical roles, handled the motor pool, and worked in bakeries, service clubs, mess and supply (Lane 1955: 25). The housing for women was considered "separate, but better" than that given to male soldiers. In 1955 McClellan would become the first permanent home of the WAC.

Fort McClellan's POW camp was completed in May 1943 west of the Headquarters area with a standard layout for up to 3,000 individuals. It had three sections with rows of 20-man barracks in each section. The barracks were shotgun-like buildings with dimensions of twenty by forty feet. The camp was essentially self contained with kitchens, orderly rooms, dayrooms, dispensaries, a chapel, library, reading room, stage, and athletic fields. Most of the men interned at McClellan worked on the post and some were involved with local employers in the agricultural and industrial sectors who contracted out for their labor. In their off hours and in jobs assigned to them on post, POWs created a substantial legacy at Fort McClellan in the realms of masonry and art as well as less visible improvements. Stone walls, chimneys, patios, drainage ditches, and landscaping are credited to the prisoners, as well as the carved bar at the Officers Club (now removed) and the murals which decorate its walls.

Since 1945 Fort McClellan has undergone changes in mission and facilities, and has on occasion had to fight for its very survival as an active fort, but the Post Headquarters District has maintained its character and integrity as an intact example of community planning in the context of military architecture between the two World Wars. It is also a visible symbol of the successful relationship between the military installation and the community of Anniston. The post has played a significant role in local political and economic history and it has provided a connection between a small Alabama town and the national preparations for war.

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This nomination form is based partly on a two-volume historic building inventory prepared in 1993 by New South Associates, Inc. of Stone Mountain, Georgia, and ERC Environmental and Energy Services Co., Inc. of Knoxville, Tennessee. Volume II of that report contains HABS inventory forms on all pre-1942 buildings at Fort McClellan. The report was submitted to the US Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile, Alabama. Some sections of that report are included verbatim in this nomination, which was also produced by New South Associates. References used for both are included in the following list.

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**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section Number 9 Page 10

**Fort McClellan Industrial District  
Calhoun County, AL**

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**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section Number 9 Page 11

**Fort McClellan Industrial District  
Calhoun County, AL**

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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section Number 9 Page 12

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Calhoun County, AL

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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section Number 9 Page 13

Fort McClellan Industrial District  
Calhoun County, AL

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Inspection and Field Reports Box#2666. On deposit at the National Archives,  
Washington, D.C.

Thomas, Major E.G., Q.M. C.

1940 "Housing for the Army, a W.P.A. and P.W.A. Construction Program" in *The  
Quartermaster's Review*, May-June.

27th Division News

1941 *Origin of Fort McClellan, Subsequent Development*. Tuesday, April 8, 1941.

U.S. Congress House Committee on Military Affairs

1926 Army Housing Program. 69th Congress, 454 (13), December 23, 1926.

Walker, E.B.

1988 German P.O.W.'s. *Alabama Heritage*, No. 7, Winter.

War Department, Q. M.C. Forms

1930- On deposit at the Real Property Office, Fort McClellan, Anniston, Ala.  
1941

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section Number 9,10 Page 14

**Fort McClellan Industrial District  
Calhoun County, AL**

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Wasch, Diane and Perry Busch

1989 *World War II Temporary Structures: the U.S. Army.* Compiled June-September, 1988. John A. Burns, editor. Draft report prepared for the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior.

Wheaton, Lt. Col. Francis B., Q.M.C.

1928 "The Architecture of the Army Post" in the *Quartermaster's Review*, September-October.

Withey, Henry F., A.I.A. and Elsie Rathburn Withey

1956 *Biographical Dictionary of American Architects Deceased.* New Age Publishing Company, Los Angeles.

**10. Verbal Boundary Description**

Boundaries are indicated on the attached map.

**Verbal Boundary Justification**

The boundaries include the most significant concentration of buildings in the original industrial, warehouse and transportation areas which were constructed during the period of significance. The area is relatively compact and contained between the railroad spur and South Branch Creek and Transportation Road which form the major boundaries.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section Number \_\_\_\_\_ Page 15

**Fort McClellan Industrial District  
Calhoun County, AL**

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**Maps**

- Map 1. Fort McClellan Industrial District showing location of UTM references.  
Source: U.S.G.S. Quadrangle: Anniston, Ala. 1956 (PR 1972).
- Map 2. Fort McClellan Industrial District Boundaries.  
Source: U.S. Army, Fort McClellan, Alabama.
- Map 3. Fort McClellan Industrial District showing location and direction of photographs.  
Source: U.S. Army, Fort McClellan, Alabama.



**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section Number \_\_\_\_ Page 16

**Fort McClellan Industrial District  
Calhoun County, AL**

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**Photographs**

The following applies to all photographs:

Name of Property: Fort McClellan Industrial District

County and State: Calhoun County, Alabama

Photographer: Denise P. Messick

Negatives Filed: Mobile District Corps of Engineers

Date Photographed: June, 1994

**Description and Vantage Point of Photographs:**

- Photo 1. View of foot bridge across South Branch Creek. View north.
- Photo 2. South Branch Creek with stone walls and island. View northeast.
- Photo 3. Buildings 229 and 230. View northeast.
- Photo 4. Building 234. View southeast.
- Photo 5. Buildings 229 and 230. View southeast.
- Photo 6. Building 241. View northwest.
- Photo 7. Buildings 229 and 230. Rear facades. View northwest.
- Photo 8. Building 236. View northeast.
- Photo 9. Building T-245. View northeast.
- Photo 10. Building 247. View northeast.
- Photo 11. Railroad spur. View northwest.
- Photo 12. "Temporary" World War II era warehouses north of railroad. View northwest.
- Photo 13. Building 243. View south/southeast.
- Photo 14. Building 244. View east.
- Photo 15. Building 243. View northeast.
- Photo 16. Building 237. View northeast.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section Number \_\_\_\_ Page 17

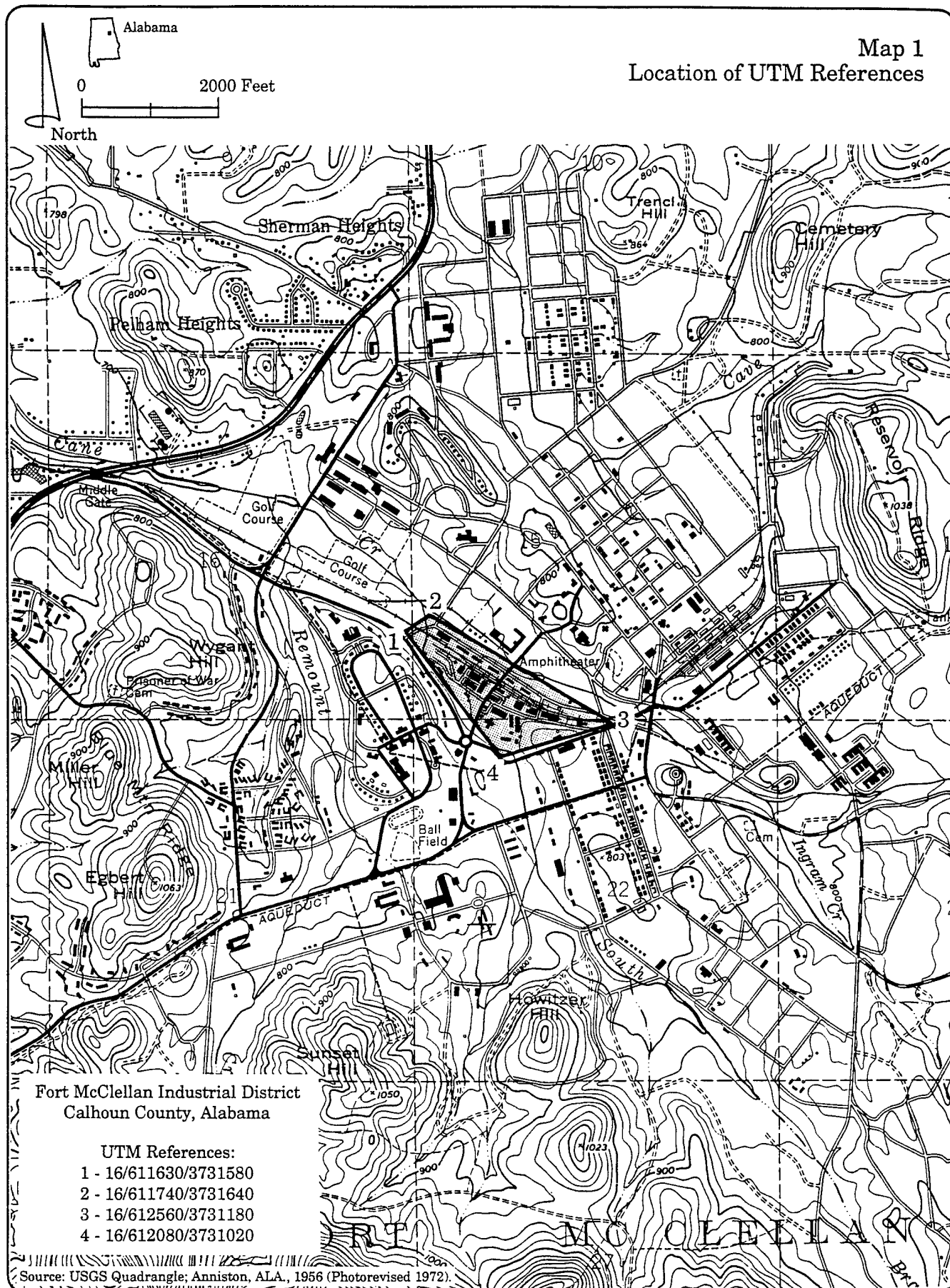
**Fort McClellan Industrial District  
Calhoun County, AL**

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- Photo 17.      Building 242. View east.
- Photo 18.      Building 241. View northeast.
- Photo 19.      Building 252. View southeast.
- Photo 20.      Building 228. View northeast.
- Photo 21.      Coal Trestle (Structure 216). View northwest.
- Photo 22.      Coal Trestle (Structure 216). View northwest.
- Photo 23.      View of Industrial Area from South Branch. View northeast.
- Photo 24.      Detail of foot bridge at South Branch. View east.

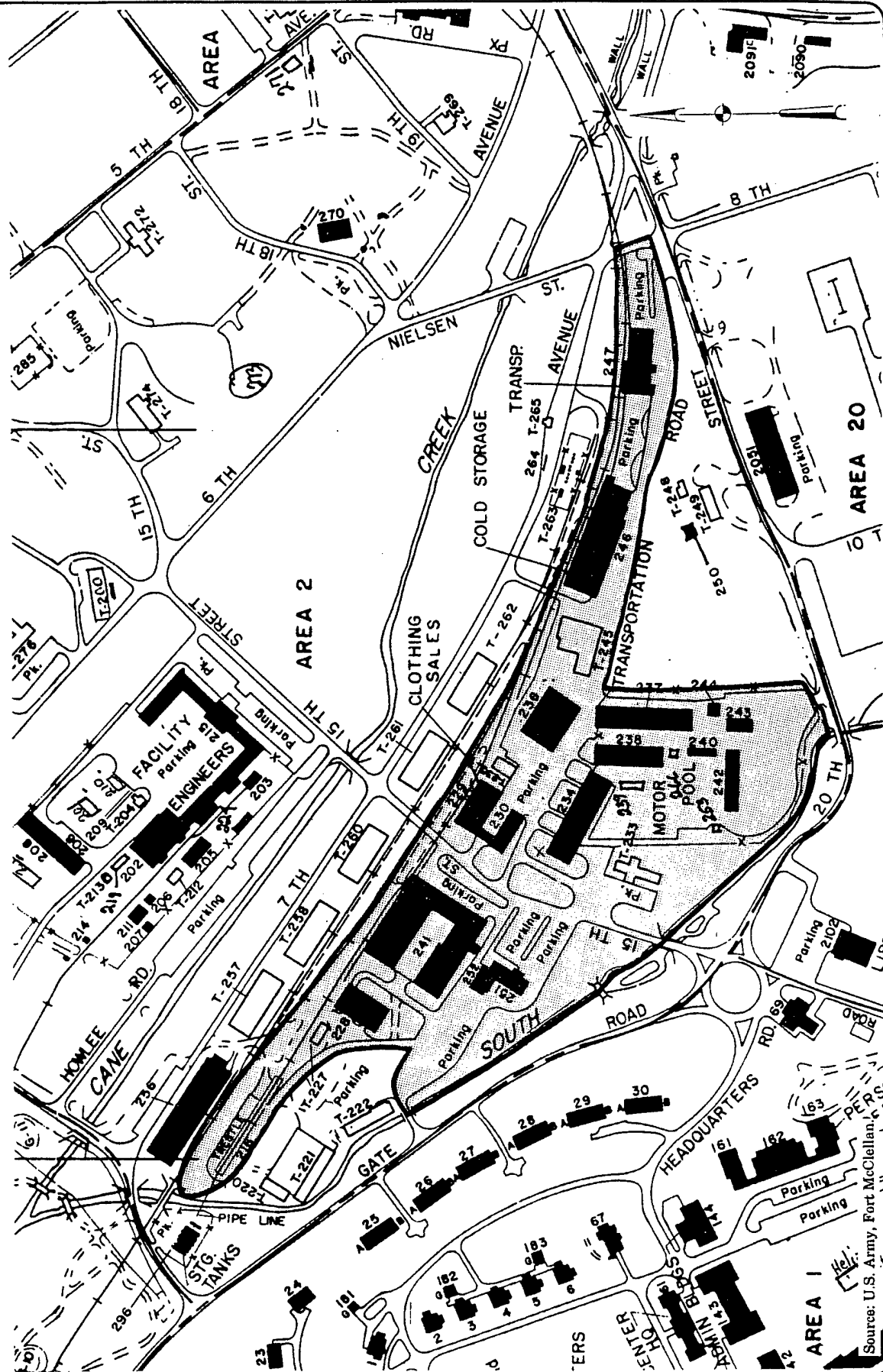
# Map 1

## Location of UTM References



Map 2  
District Boundaries

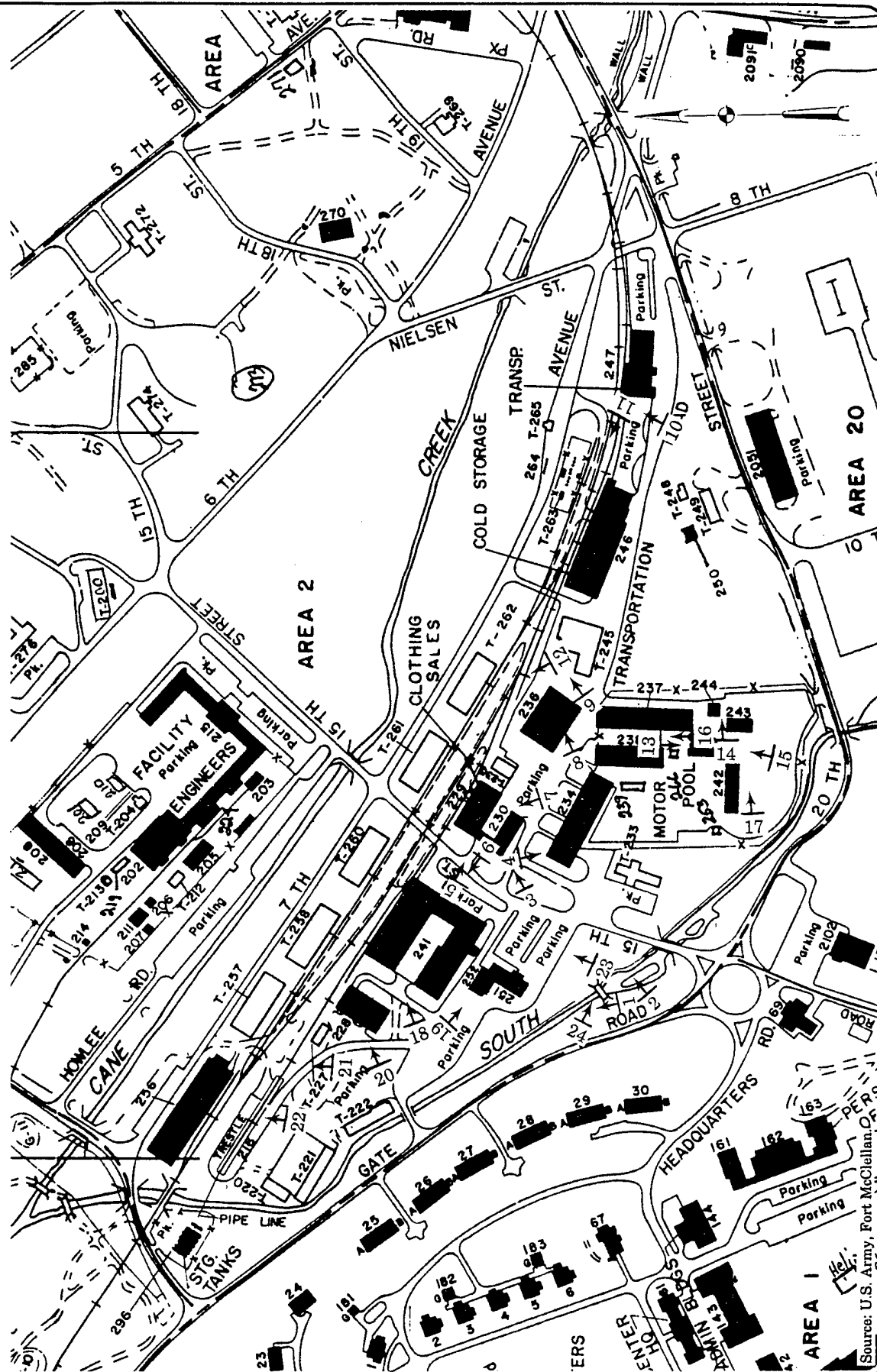
0 400 Feet



Source: U.S. Army, Fort McClellan, S.C.

Map 3  
Location and Direction of Photographs

0 400 Feet



Source: U.S. Army, Fort McClellan, Q.A.P.

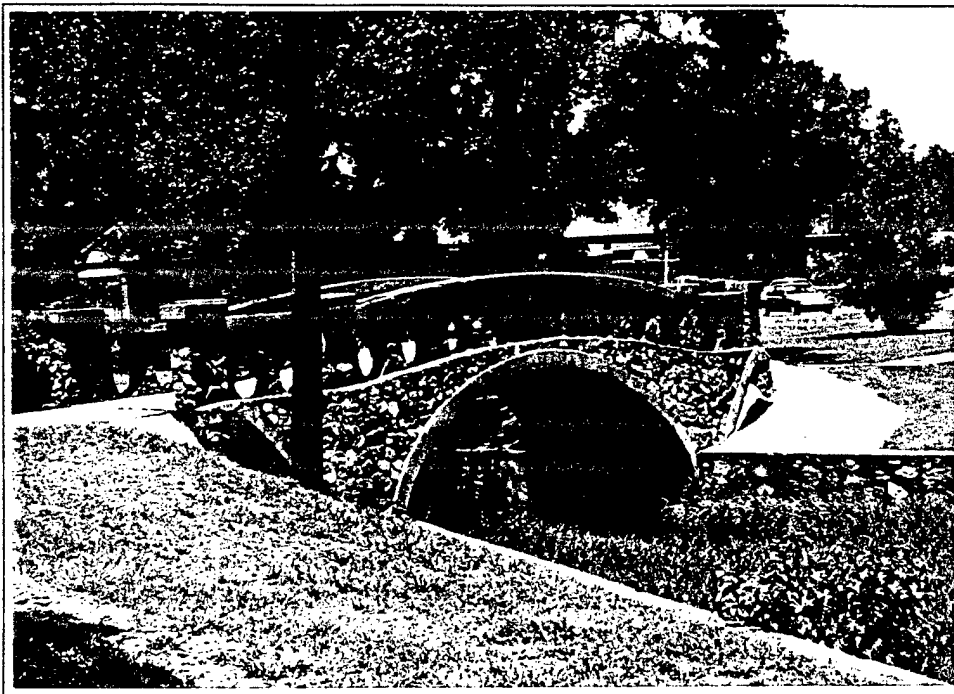


Photo 1

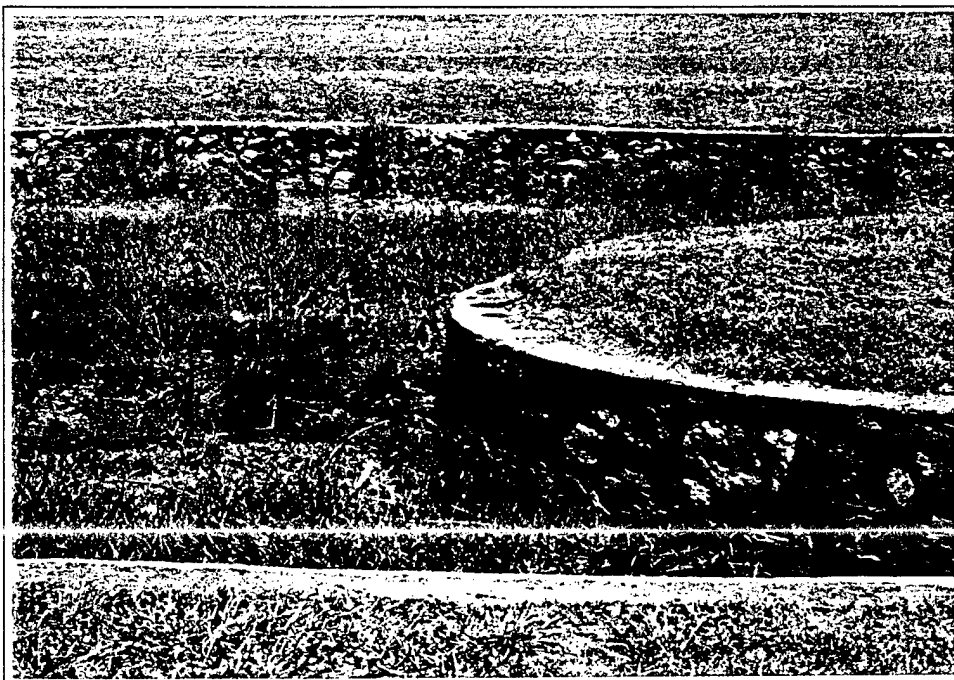


Photo 2

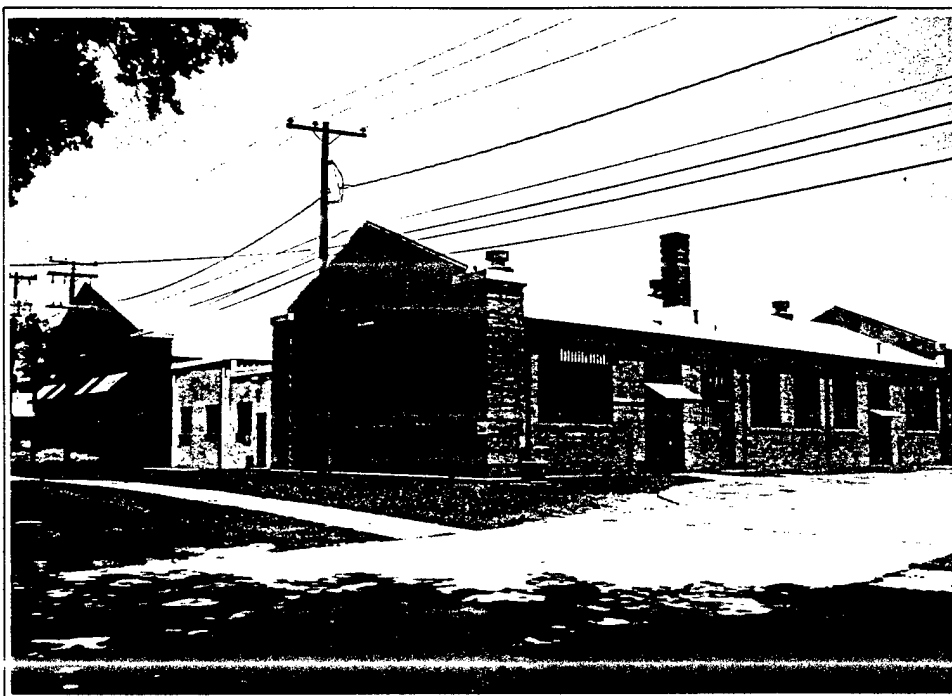


Photo 3



Photo 4



Photo 5

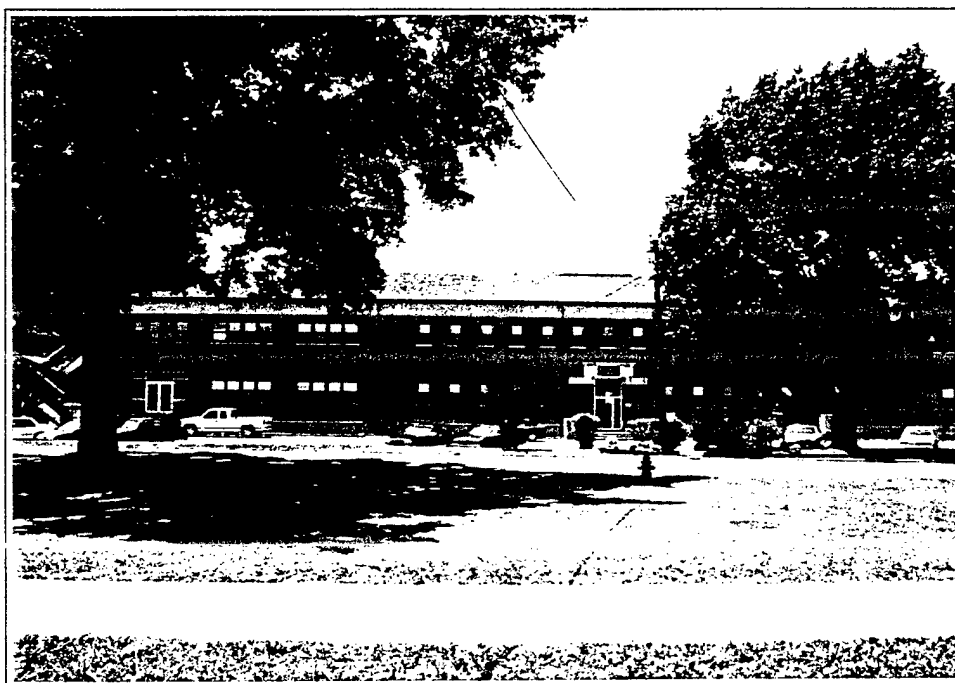


Photo 6





Photo 7



Photo 8

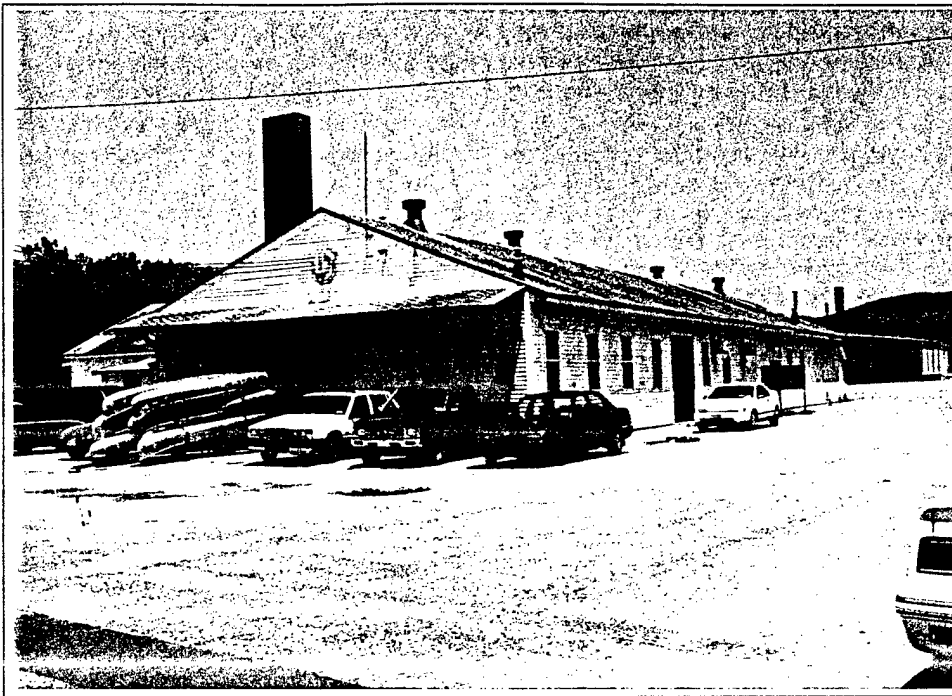


Photo 9

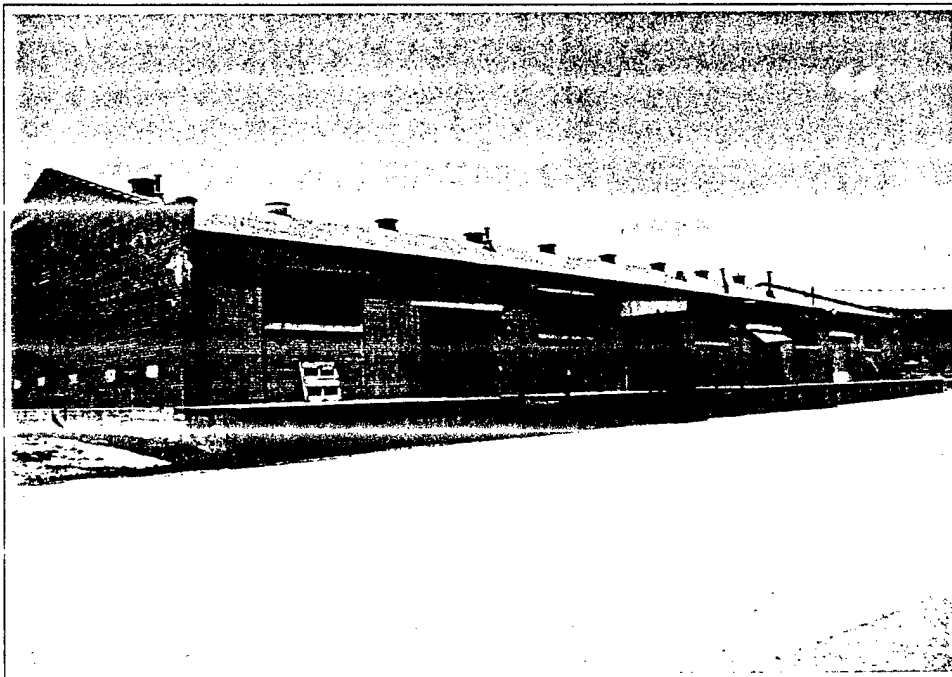


Photo 10

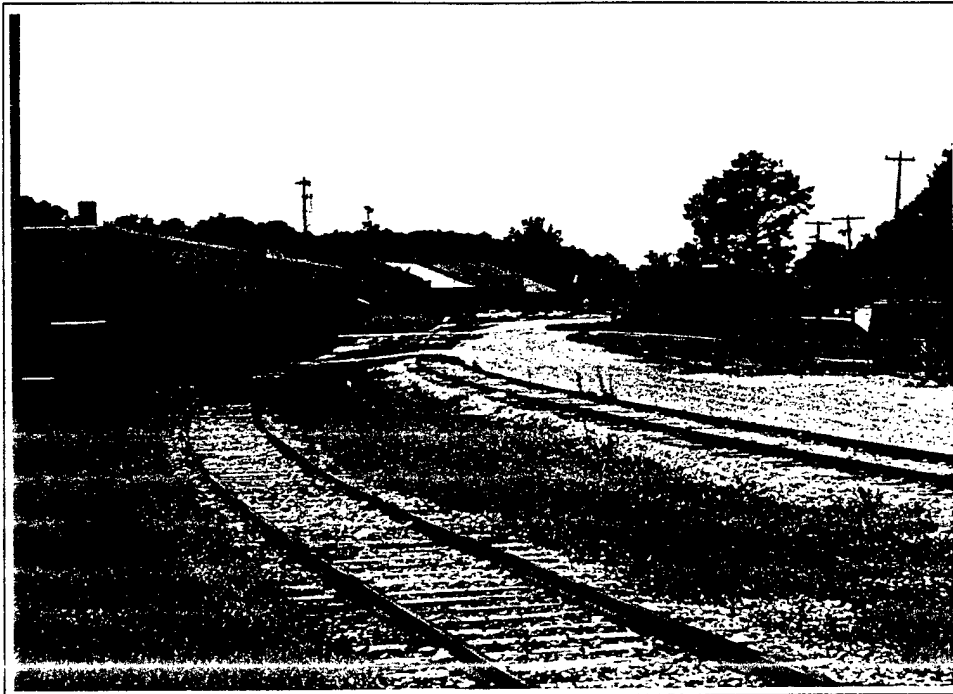


Photo 11

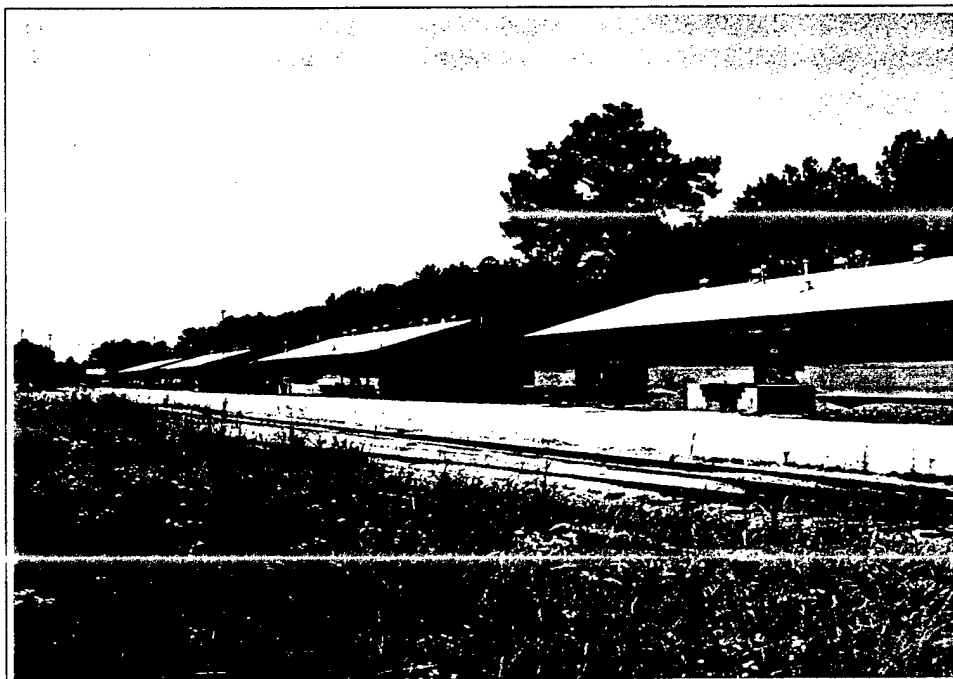


Photo 12

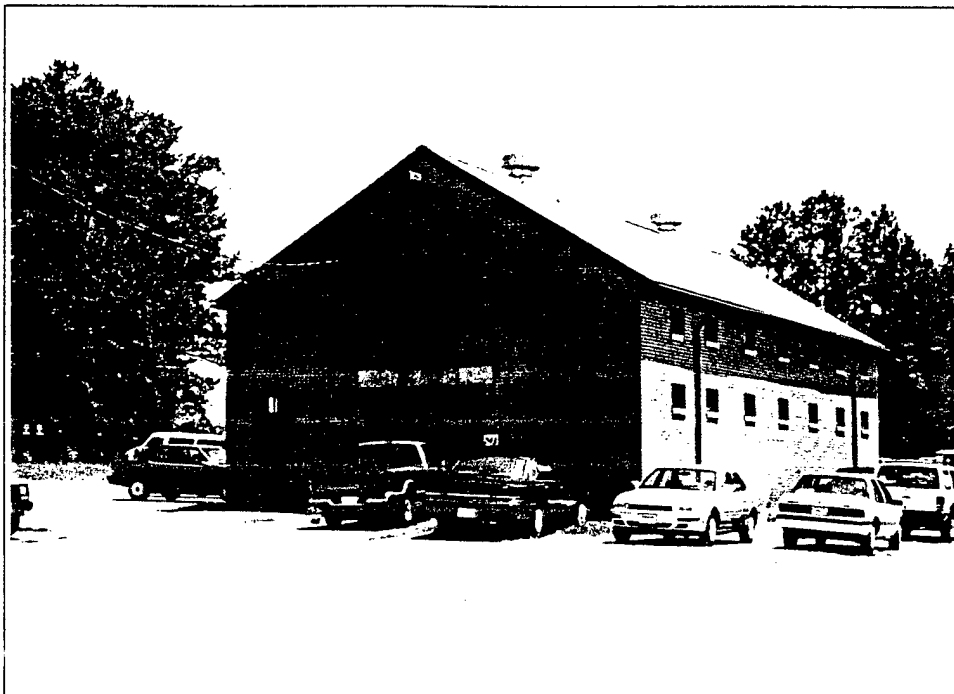


Photo 13



Photo 14



Photo 15

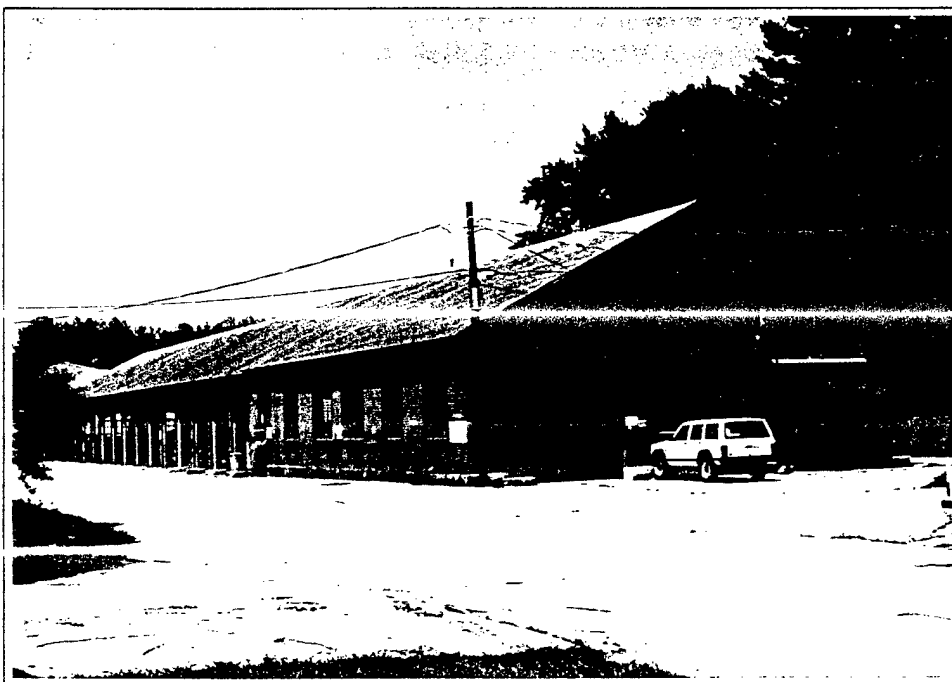


Photo 16



Photo 17



Photo 18



Photo 19



Photo 20

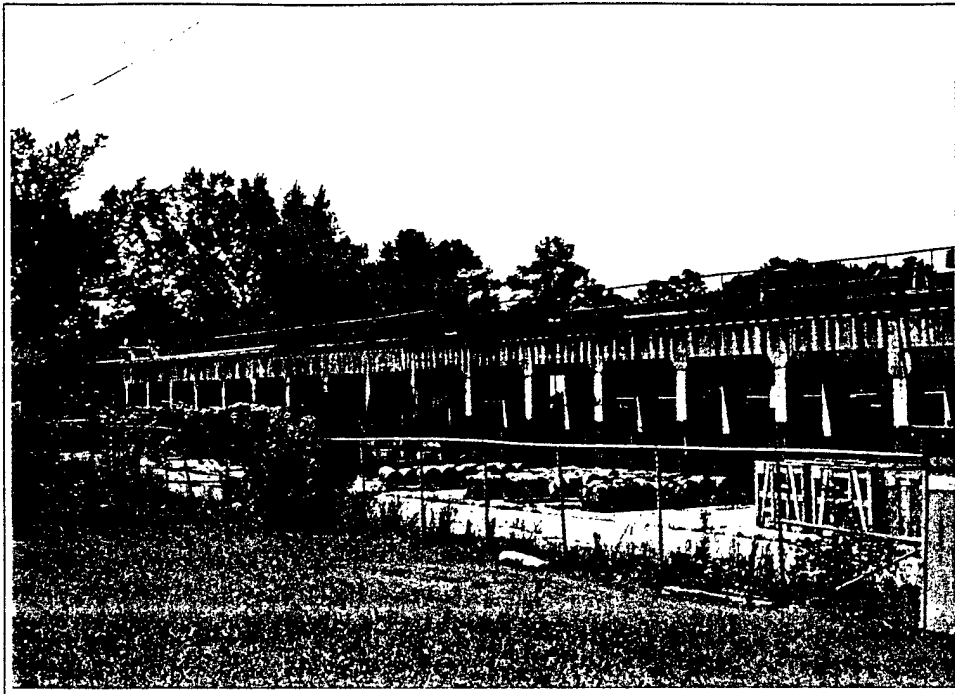


Photo 21

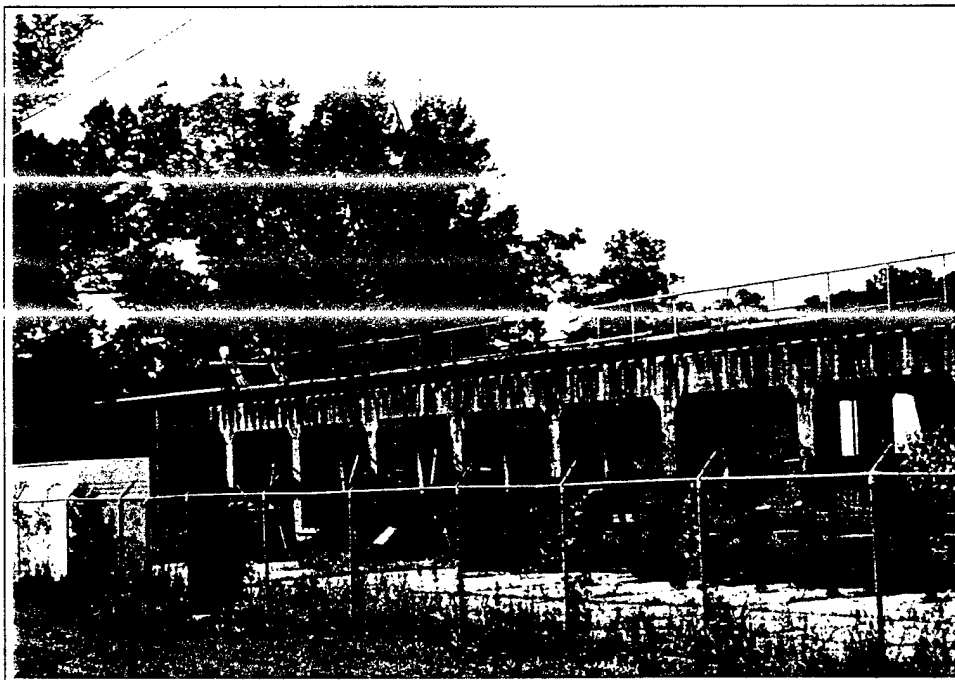


Photo 22





Photo 23

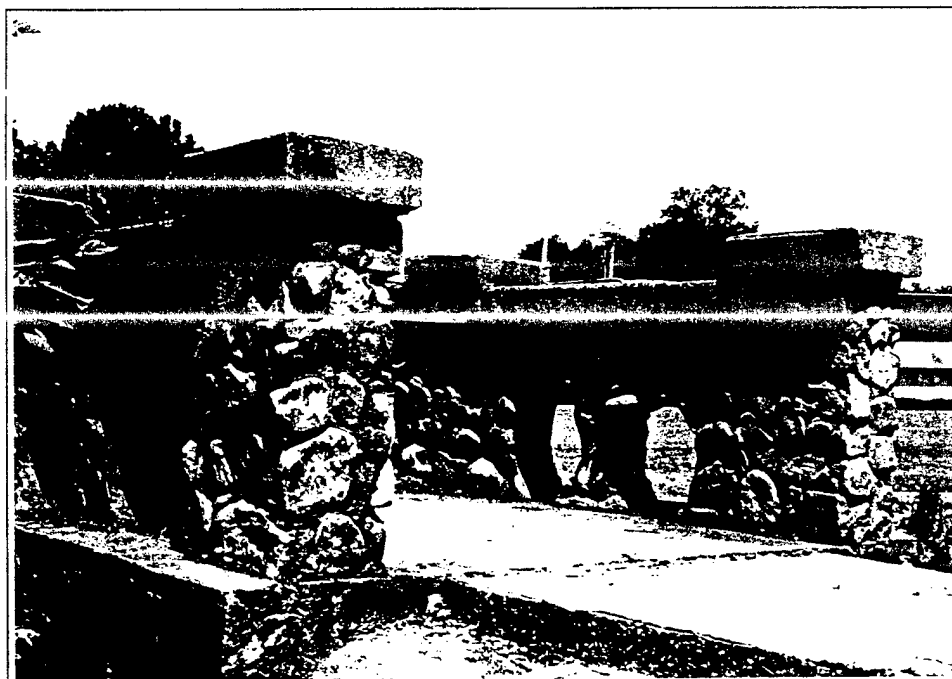


Photo 24

## Appendix C

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**Draft National Register Nomination:**

**Fort McClellan Ammunition Storage District**

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

## 1. Name of Property

historic name Ammunition Storage Area

other names/site number Magazines Area

## 2. Location

street & number \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ not for publication

city or town Fort McClellan ☐ vicinity

state Alabama code AL county Calhoun code 015 zip code 36205

## 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this ☐ nomination ☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☐ locally. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

State or Federal agency and bureau \_\_\_\_\_

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

State or Federal agency and bureau \_\_\_\_\_

## 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

Signature of the Keeper \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Action \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ entered in the National Register.  
☐ See continuation sheet.

- ☐ determined eligible for the  
National Register  
☐ See continuation sheet.

- ☐ determined not eligible for the  
National Register.

- ☐ removed from the National  
Register.

- ☐ other, (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

## 5. Classification

### Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- ☐ private
- ☐ public-local
- ☐ public-State
- ☒ public-Federal

### Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- ☐ building(s)
- ☒ district
- ☐ site
- ☐ structure
- ☐ object

### Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing

Noncontributing

_____	buildings
_____	sites
8	5
_____	structures
_____	objects
_____	Total

### Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

### Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

## 6. Function or Use

### Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Defense: Military Facility

Defense: Arms Storage

### Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Defense: Military Facility

Defense: Arms Storage

## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

No style.

### Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation

walls

Refer to Continuation Sheet #1

roof

other

### Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

## 8. Statement of Significance

### Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- ☒ A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ☐ B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☒ C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

### Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- ☐ A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ B removed from its original location.
- ☐ C a birthplace or grave.
- ☐ D a cemetery.
- ☐ E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ F a commemorative property.
- ☐ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

### Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

### Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

### Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering

### Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Military

Engineering

### Period of Significance

From 1917 to 1941.

### Significant Dates

N/A

### Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

### Cultural Affiliation

N/A

### Architect/Builder

Construction Division, U.S. Army

### Primary location of additional data:

- ☒ State Historic Preservation Office
- ☐ Other State agency
- ☒ Federal agency
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other

Name of repository:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District

Name of Property \_\_\_\_\_

County and State \_\_\_\_\_

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Approximately 40

### UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	1, 6	6, 1, 3, 0, 8, 0	3, 7, 3, 2, 5, 8, 0
	Zone	Easting	Northing
2	1, 6	6, 1, 3, 5, 6, 0	3, 7, 3, 2, 9, 5, 6

3	1, 6	6, 1, 3, 7, 6, 0	3, 7, 3, 2, 4, 7, 1
	Zone	Easting	Northing
4	1, 6	6, 1, 3, 1, 9, 0	3, 7, 3, 2, 2, 2, 1

☐ See continuation sheet

### Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

### Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Mary Beth Reed

organization New South Associates date \_\_\_\_\_

street & number 6150 East Ponce de Leon Ave. telephone (404) 498-4155

city or town Stone Mountain state GA zip code 30083

### Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

#### Continuation Sheets

#### Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

#### Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

### Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

### Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name \_\_\_\_\_

street & number \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_

city or town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**Section Number 7 Page 1**Fort McClellan Ammunition Storage District  
Calhoun County, AL****7. Materials**World War I Magazines

foundation	concrete
walls	stucco
roof	asbestos

World War II Magazines

foundations	concrete
walls	metal

**Narrative Description**

Fort McClellan occupies a mostly level, well-drained area in the Choccolocco Valley at the foot of the Appalachian Highlands near Anniston, Alabama. The present configuration is based on a 1920s plan to transform the post into a military community and to adopt spatial divisions according to functional areas of "reasonable concentration." Begun in 1917 as a National Guard camp, the fort was granted permanent status in 1929 and began a ten year expansion program at that time. By the 1940s, five main areas could be distinguished: the Post Headquarters Area, the Warehouse (or Industrial) Area, the Railhead Area, the Hospital Area, and the Magazines (or Ammunitions Storage) Area. Fort McClellan is one of a generation of forts to first use standardized building plans and site plans drawn by the Quartermaster Corps with shared perceptions of layout, style, design and landscape.

The Ammunition Storage Area or Magazine Area is composed of seventeen ammunition supply structures and one temporary building. This functional area within the post layout was first defined in 1917 and expanded in 1941. The magazines are utilitarian structures designed for safe storage of various types of ammunition. They are clustered at the foot of Reservoir Ridge and south of Cave Creek on the northeastern perimeter of the main building area. In general, two types of magazines are represented: standard ordnance buildings constructed in 1917 and 1936 and igloos constructed in 1941. The 1917 examples are modest, rectangular, stucco buildings with gable roofs built according to standardized plans. A brick powderhouse constructed in 1917 is also part of this building generation. These are the only surviving 1917 permanent buildings at Fort McClellan. A standard ordnance magazine was added to the area in 1936 but the major expansion occurred in 1941 when nine igloos were constructed. These earth-covered, half barrel shaped structures were named for their resemblance to Inuit shelters. They replaced their World War I counterparts becoming the standard magazine of World War II.

Completion dates for structures in the Ammunitions Storage Historic District range from 1917 to 1941. Structures identified by number are keyed to the accompanying maps and to a historic building inventory of Fort McClellan submitted to the US Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District, in June 1993. The contributing structures within the proposed district include the following magazines: 4401, 4402, 4405, 4406, 4412, 4413, 4415, and 4416. Five other ammunition storage structures were demolished to accommodate new construction in 1994. These structures (4403, 4404, 4408, 4409, and 4414) are preserved through Historic American Building

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section Number 7 Page 2

**Fort McClellan Ammunition Storage District  
Calhoun County, AL**

Survey/Historic American Engineering Record (HABS/HAER) Level 1 documentation. Despite the new construction, the 1917 layout of the Magazine Area and its 1941 expansion is remarkably intact. Moreover, the new construction will be sympathetic in form and function to the predominant magazine type, the igloo, at Fort McClellan.

Situated at some distance from the military community, Reservoir Ridge acts as the Ammunition Supply Area's eastern boundary and also defines a portion of its northern extent. The pine-forested ridge and the flat lands to the west and north, which are also covered in pines and heavy vegetation provide a sense of enclosure. The perimeter of the area is bounded with six foot high chain link fencing and lights mounted on telephone poles which are equally spaced along the fence's interior. The treeline begins fairly close to the perimeter fence. A railroad spur and Second Avenue offer the only access to this restricted area which is stewarded by contractors housed in a temporary frame building (T-4407) that lies directly outside and to the south of the enclosure.

The Ammunition Supply Area has a partially dendritic shape. Its buildings are situated along the northern end of Second Avenue and two unnamed, non-connecting roads. Second Avenue, known historically as Magazine Road, is a paved dogleg, terminating in a dead end. Further access to the area is provided by a railroad spur that leads northward from the Warehouse Supply Area and curves around the magazines that lie west of Second Avenue. The pre-World War II magazines are characteristically aligned with the railroad spur and Second Avenue, sandwiched between the rails and the road. Each magazine located by the railroad has a concrete dock to facilitate the unloading of ammunitions. Only Building 4406, a powderhouse, located west of the railroad track at the beginning of the curve in Second Avenue, departs from this geographical pattern.

The pre World War II magazines are Structures 4401, 4402, 4405. Structure 4401 was constructed in 1936; Structures 4402 and 4405 were built in 1917. All are either rectangular or square in plan with gable roofs. Foundations and floors are poured reinforced concrete. Structures 4402 and 4405 are frame finished in stucco while Structure 4401 wall's are composed of structural clay tile filled with sand and covered on the exterior with reinforced concrete. An asbestos shingled gable roof with a ridge vent is present on the earlier examples. All of the magazines are equipped with lightning rods and grounding cables as a safety precaution and all have open interior plans. In addition to their homogeneity in form and location, the early magazines' shared chronology is further underscored by the use of color. Each pre-World War II magazine is stuccoed in a creamy beige color and accented by dark brown. Each of these buildings is fairly well preserved with no major modifications. Changes include the replacement of doors, the addition of metal cables to help support the roof members, and the substitution of concrete docks for the original wooden versions. Demolished magazines 4403 and 4404 were identical to Structure 4405.

This architectural and visual continuity among the pre-World War II buildings ends where Second Avenue begins to curve to the northeast. The row of early magazines is followed by three earthen-covered, inverted, half barrel-shaped igloo magazines that follow the alignment and cadence set by the barn type magazines. The cadence of the igloos is essentially the same but their unconventional form juxtaposed with the character of the older magazines is visually jarring. While the latter resemble small barns or storehouses, the igloos, due to their earthen cover and shape, are more akin to prehistoric mounds. This juxtaposition is further heightened by the size of the igloos which overwhelm their World War I counterparts.

There are four historic igloos within the Ammunition Supply Area. They are situated on the unnamed roads which reach up into the ridge. Buildings 4412 and 4413 are situated on a road



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Fort McClellan Ammunition Storage District  
Calhoun County, AL

Section Number 7 Page 3

that parallels Second Avenue while Buildings 4415 and 4416, located on a second dogleg, are built directly into Reservoir Ridge. These structures are rectangular in plan, having open interiors. Sizes varied with available space. Floor and foundations are poured reinforced concrete while the arches and end walls are composed of metal sections. Multi-Plate, a corrugated pressed metal plate produced by Armco for the construction of culverts, was used for the arches while Steelex panels, also produced by Armco, were bolted together for the head and end walls. The metal barrel was covered with earth. Wooden supports were added at an unknown date to the igloo interior's to forestall sagging arches. Structures 4412 and 4413 are accompanied by earthen barricades created out of earth and railroad ties. These barricades were constructed in accordance with safety procedures to better secure safe storage of particular ammunition types. Demolished magazines 4408, 4409 and 4414 were identical in form and construction to the other 1941 igloos.

The district also includes three other igloos. Structures 4410 and 4411 were extensively modified in 1982 to provide better storage conditions at Fort McClellan. Sagging arches were totally replaced and the head and end walls were replaced with reinforced concrete. Only the siting of the original structures is preserved. Structure 4417 is an igloo that is less than fifty years of age. Building 4421, a concrete, flat roofed storage building is a less than fifty years of age and a temporary one story frame building (T-4420) used for equipment storage is recently built.

The Ammunitions Storage District was found to have 8 contributing structures and 5 non-contributing structures. A detailed inventory follows. While Structures 4410 and 4411 have been extensively altered and five magazines are no longer standing, the Ammunition Storage Area, as a whole, possesses high levels of integrity in terms of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. There were no major alterations or additions to the structures until the 1980s. The continuity of Fort McClellan's use as a military post has contributed to its preservation and also the need for new construction. The buildings demolished were unable to be used due to their condition and posed a safety risk given their function. Despite this, the new construction is sympathetic to the established landscape. Two other distinct areas are being nominated separately to the National Register as the Post Headquarters District and the Industrial District

INVENTORY OF CONTRIBUTING STRUCTURES:

Structure 4401  
Ordnance Magazine  
Original Use: same

Structure 4402  
Ordnance Magazine  
Original Use: same

Structure 4405  
Standard Ordnance Magazine  
Original Use: same

**United States Department of the Interior**  
**National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Section Number 7 Page 4

**Fort McClellan Ammunition Storage District**  
**Calhoun County, AL**

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Structure 4406  
Storage shed  
Original Use: Powder House

Structure 4412  
Igloo Magazine  
Original Use: same

Structure 4413  
Igloo Magazine  
Original Use: same

Structure 4415  
Igloo Magazine  
Original Use: same

Structure 4416  
Igloo Magazine  
Original Use: same

TOTAL = 8 contributing structures

**NON-CONTRIBUTING STRUCTURES:**

Structure 4410  
Igloo Magazine  
Original Use: same

Structure 4411  
Igloo Magazine  
Original Use: same

Structure 4417  
Igloo Magazine  
Original Use: same

Structure 4421  
Storage Shed  
Original Use: Unknown

Building T-4420  
Storage  
Original Use: same

TOTAL = 5 non-contributing structures

**United States Department of the Interior**  
**National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Section Number 8 Page 5

**Fort McClellan Ammunition Storage District**  
**Calhoun County, AL**

**8. Statement of Significance**

The Fort McClellan Ammunition Storage Historic District is significant for Criteria A and C. The post's military significance derives from its roles in both world wars, first as a National Guard camp in 1917, and then as a permanent installation after 1928 with several divisions of soldiers later training there during World War II. These included the 92nd Division, which was the Army's second African-American division, as well as two detachments of Women's Army Corps. The Prisoner of War (POW) camp established at Fort McClellan in June of 1943 also figures significantly into the history of the post. McClellan's evolution and transformation from hastily erected temporary structures to a permanent, planned community reflects the development of the United States military from World War I to World War II. It is also an important early example of the application of community design principles to standardized military construction.

Fort McClellan's significance on the local level is unquestionable. The development of the fort in the twentieth century and the growth and success of its supporting community of Anniston are inextricably linked. The city of Anniston established not only the political framework which brought the military into the valley, but also helped to financially underwrite the purchase of the land on which the base sits. As early as World War I, the town had elected officials whose sole responsibility was to deal with the fort. The relationship between the two communities was noted as exemplary. At the beginning of the twentieth century, Anniston recognized that its future lay with Fort McClellan, and since that time the fortunes of the two have been related. The historic areas at Fort McClellan, which embody the military post as first developed, are visual symbols of the union between community and military fortification. As a group they strongly reflect their time and place and the people and processes which formed them (Reed et al. 1993).

While the buildings at Fort McClellan have national and local significance by virtue of their association with the two world wars, the ammunition storage structures are also significant under Criterion C. The Ammunition Storage Historic District contains distinctive architectural examples of best practice in two generations of ammunition storage design. These structures provide a timeline of technological change within a military context that yields information important to the history of technology. Each generation of magazines incorporated new knowledge about how ammunition could be safely stored. Period literature from the Ordnance Department indicates that the Fort McClellan 1917 magazines were "standard" types at field depots. These frame and stucco buildings were superseded by the hollow tile construction of the 1930s. Building 4401 is an example of this new construction type that was cast in the form of the 1917 magazines. The igloo with its arch and earth covering was a major departure in both form and construction. Its design, a response to a tragic explosion, is attributed to the Navy in 1927. Despite its novelty, the igloo became the new standard magazine of World War II. Fort McClellan's igloos are metal examples. These structures hold significant information about the prompt adoption by the military of new improvements in culvert and tunnel design and their application throughout the nation's ammunition depots.

The layout of the Ammunition Storage Area was also part of a military technology that was unfolding in World War I and improved upon in World War II. The initial layout of the Ammunition Supply Area can be credited to the Construction Quartermaster and engineers that established Camp McClellan in 1917. Their plan devolved upon an association of the railroad spur with the

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section Number 8 Page 6

**Fort McClellan Ammunition Storage District  
Calhoun County, AL**

magazines within an area that was buffered from the main building area. The railroad spur was crucial as it tied the isolated area into the new camp's main transportation artery and allowed it to function within Camp McClellan's Ordnance Depot. Topography was also a consideration. Accordingly, the most level area was chosen for the first magazines and the railbed.

Its subsequent growth was a product of World War II. The outer buffer zone established in 1917 was still intact in 1941. The main challenge was to expand the magazine area using standardized safety distances without compromising the utility of earlier magazines and by fully using the land available. Much of the latter is Reservoir Ridge. Research has shown that where new magazine areas were being laid out in World War II contexts, standard layouts were followed. A distance of 600 feet between each unit was used to discourage induced or sympathetic explosions within the group. Such an organization was not attainable at Fort McClellan, where a functional area was already in existence and to a certain extent already defined. Adequate safety distances and topography were the factors that guided the situation of the nine World War II igloos.

The Ammunition Storage Historic District is an example of a distinctive and little studied landscape within military posts. It presents a timeline of architectural and technological change recorded in its buildings and its layout that is unparalleled in the information it contains about ammunition and men in a time of war.

**Historical Narrative and Context**

Camp McClellan was one of 32 National Guard Camps established as part of the World War I mobilization effort. The city of Anniston and the region had associations with the military that began with the Spanish American War. Charles L. Dulin was the Constructing Quartermaster placed in charge of camp construction which was laid out in 26 blocks designated as areas, each performing a specific function and containing a set number of buildings. By February of 1919, 1,534 buildings had been constructed including six magazines.

A permanent building program was launched by the Army in 1924, and Fort McClellan, designated as such in 1929, benefited from its establishment. This program along with the general movement toward post improvement was directed toward housing and the perception of the post as a military community. Regional architectural styles were chosen for residential architecture and the main post buildings and planned functional areas were also designed. At Fort McClellan this translated into the construction of new areas such as the Headquarters Area which were Spanish Colonial Revival in style. By 1946, Fort McClellan would be divided into at least five defined areas: the Post Headquarters Area, the Warehouse Area, the Railhead Area, the Hospital Area, and the Magazine Area. Despite all of these improvements, the Magazine Area, now known as the Ammunition Storage Area, remained static in form and in size between 1917 and 1936. Unlike its functional counterparts, its initial construction and later expansion was directly tied to the onset of war.

The Magazine Area was laid out and constructed by Colonel Dulin, the Construction Quartermaster for Camp McClellan, as part of the new post. Once completed, it was considered part of the camp's Ordnance Depot under the direction of the 120th Ordnance Depot Company. The latter began operations on September 3, 1917 when its first warehouse was completed and designated for the storage of ordnance. This line of command was newly instituted. Prior to General Order No. 137, War Department, 1917, the Adjutant General of the Army directed

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section Number 8 Page 7

**Fort McClellan Ammunition Storage District  
Calhoun County, AL**

Commanding Generals of the divisions in training to organize Field Depot Companies at their respective camps. This delegation of authority was pragmatic. As no centralized unit specializing in ordnance supply was in existence, the experience of these men was drawn upon. However, this arrangement led to a lack of uniformity of procedure that could not be countenanced within the scale of operations that were unfolding. The 1917 order removed the 34 Ordnance depots from control of the camp or division commanders except for purposes of protection, discipline, or coordination of supply. This change opened the door for centralized control of the field depots which manifested itself in the Field Depot Branch of the Supply Division in the fall of 1917 (Palmer 1918/1919a).

The Ordnance Depot Company, once properly established, had an unusual place within the division camps as its control stemmed from the Ordnance Department. It was not a tactical unit but a stationary organization. Business men commissioned in Ordnance were charged with the responsibility of setting up each depot, installing efficiency, and creating a rapport with the various organizations within the camps. The underlying concept was that the Depot was to "give actual service" that would expedite and ease the Supply Officers handling of ordnance activities.

The buildings associated with each Field Depot were uniform. Cooperation between the Supply Division and the Cantonment Division of the Quartermaster Department lead to the construction of an office, two storehouses, three magazines, an oil house, and a repair shop at each field depot. All of these were built according to standardized plans and particular attention was given to the storage buildings interior design. The Stores Division were the caretakers of the magazines, along with the warehouses and the oilhouse. A historical report indicates Camp McClellan's ordnance buildings were in accordance with the agreed upon plan with the Quartermaster's Department (Palmer 1918/1919b). Three magazines were finished early in October of 1917 and a black powder magazine was also built. No further mention is made of the magazines until November 1918 when a large platform was constructed "at the magazines" to provide storage for 60,000 rounds of artillery ammunition. The ammunition had been stored outside the magazines in piles for lack of adequate storage space. "The floor of one magazine had already cracked under the weight of the ammunition which was piled to the roof," (Palmer 1918/1919b).

According to a 1919 map, the initial layout of the Magazine Area created by Dulin was straightforward, placing the munitions storage area at the base of Reservoir Ridge, approximately a mile and a half from the main building area. The internal organization of the magazines was fairly simple between 1917 and 1919. Four of the magazines fronted the railroad spur on their west elevations while an unnamed street, perpendicular with Henry Street, was built along their eastern elevations. Three of these buildings were rectangular structures uniform in size. These are known currently as Buildings 4403, 4404 and 4405. Only 4405 is extant. Real property records indicate that each measured 24 feet x 60 feet. Gable roofs with ridge vents covered the frame and concrete buildings. Map information further indicates that a set interval was allowed between each of approximately 120 feet. A fourth magazine, Building 4402, was built south of Building 4403. This was a square, 20 feet on a side, magazine similar in construction to the other 1917 magazines. Two other magazines are noted on the 1919 map. Both of which were located away from the group on the railroad spur. Real property records identify these as powderhouses.

A 1937 General Map of Fort McClellan shows only minor changes occurred in the Magazine Area since World War I. This is in sharp contrast with the expansion experienced by other areas at Fort McClellan that were targeted by the Housing Program for the Army. The main changes were the addition of a new approach from the south and the renaming of Henry Street to "Ordnance

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section Number 8 Page 8

Fort McClellan Ammunition Storage District  
Calhoun County, AL

Road." The temporary building shown in 1919 disappeared and the beginning of the curve of the dogleg around Reservoir Ridge was more defined. Only one magazine materialized from a 1934 request for four additional magazines, Building 4401. Based on QM 652-297, this magazine was not constructed until May of 1936 after the 1937 Master Plan was completed. Listed as an Ordnance Magazine, it was a rectangular building whose gable end faced the railroad spur. While this was a departure from the earlier magazines, Building 4401 was still a sibling to the earlier Standard Ordnance Depot Magazine. The nine igloos constructed in 1941, however, were from another gene pool.

The lethargy that blocked adequate repair of Fort McClellan's magazines ended with the onset of World War II. Attention once focused upon the construction of camps and cantonments, now centered on munitions as Americans realized that industrial preparedness was a necessity. By October of 1940, the Army had allotted \$700 million for constructing and equipping new facilities to make and store munitions. Four months later the first munitions plant program was defined (Fine and Remington 1989:309). As in World War I, the Construction Division built the plants and storage buildings the Ordnance personnel would exclusively use. One thread within these linked stories was the upgrading of ammunition storage facilities and the establishment of regional ammunition depots. Fort McClellan was considered as a possible candidate for bomb storage but was passed over after a survey found no suitable ground available. Instead, Fort McClellan's ammunition storage area continued to store ammunition used in the training of the 27th Division, the National Guard Division from New York (Lane 1955:15).

Lane's history of the installation notes that Dunn Construction Company of Birmingham and John S. Hodgson Company of Montgomery were responsible for Fort McClellan's 1941 expansion of which the magazine construction must have been a part (Lane 1955:15). The new construction followed the layout created by Dulin extending Second Avenue to the northeast. The first four igloos to be built continued the World War I plan of aligning the magazines with the railroad. Both the spur and Second Avenue were extended to accommodate their construction and to afford service access. Five more igloos were constructed to the east of Second Avenue on two branches that are accessed from Second Avenue. The igloos identified as Buildings 4408, 4409, 4410, and 4411 are each over 300 feet apart. This spacing which was also afforded to Buildings 4412, 4413, 4414, 4415 and 4416 was guided by safety distances established by the American Table of Distances.

A new magazine design, the igloo, was adopted for the expansion. The igloo was designed after a tragic explosion brought safe ammunition storage to the nation's attention. A series of explosions induced by lightning at the Navy's Lake Denmark, New Jersey, Ammunition Depot occurred on July 10, 1926. High explosives, projectiles, black powder, and smokeless powder were stored in about one-third of the buildings at the depot located about three and a half miles from the City of Dover. A hollow tile magazine of fireproof construction and equipped with lighting rods akin to those at Fort McClellan was the first to explode. Other explosions followed as other buildings were ignited from embers, missiles or direct heat. Within a 3,000 foot radius from the initial explosion area, everything was destroyed. The disaster area was inventoried and analyzed to ascertain the cause of the explosion, to chronicle the chain of events, to evaluate the success or failure of safety devices in place, and to chart the distances impacted by the explosion. While the military community was bent on fact finding, the American public was horrified at the extent of the disaster and called for an investigation. The results of the official inquiry were published in 1928 under the title, *Ammunition Storage Conditions, Letter from the Acting Secretary of War Transmitting Proceedings of the Joint Board Composed of Officers of the Army and Navy to Survey Ammunition Storage Conditions, Pursuant to the Act Approved December 22, 1927.*

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**Section Number 8 Page 9**Fort McClellan Ammunition Storage District  
Calhoun County, AL**

The board noted that after World War I enormous quantities of ammunition, en route to France piled up on the Atlantic seaboard and were diverted to the nearest depot. These depots were dangerously overloaded, and all ammunition considered not essential for future use was disposed of accordingly. This still left many depots over-extended. The board stipulated no problems had occurred where proper storage was practiced and that steps could be taken to remove any further concerns. Redistribution and rearrangement were posed as solutions as well as the establishment of a permanent Joint-Army-Navy Ammunition Storage Board to serve in an advisory capacity to the Secretary of War and the Secretary of the Navy (Thomson and Mayo 1991:361). Finally it noted a new design for ammunition storage was being implemented at Yorktown Naval Mine Center.

The new barricaded magazine being built at Yorktown was also commented on in the *Engineering News Record* (1928:112). A small article on naval construction activities described the magazines as semi-cylindrical structures of reinforced concrete, covered with earth except on their end walls which are protected by barricades of earth faced with creosoted wood. The Yorktown magazines were 40 feet long and 10 feet high at the crown of their arch and had a capacity for 140,000 pounds of explosives. They were laid out in groups of seven with 500 feet between each and 1,900 feet between groups. The design was attributed to Captain E. R. Gaylor (C.E.C.) U.S.N. under Rear Admiral L. E. Gregory (C.E.C.) U.S.N. Chief of the Bureau of Yards and Docks.

"The outstanding feature of the new design is that the magazines will be sunk into the ground and bulwarked at each end, that in case of an accident, the explosive force would be directed upward instead of horizontally" (*Engineering News Record* 1928:112). A second feature of the new design was a complex system of lightning protection which included lightning rods and a steel reinforcing rods, closely set and welded in the arch (Fine and Remington 1989:333). Essentially, all reinforcing steel and other metal parts were electrically connected to a copper girdle circling the entire structure and embedded in its footing (Cotter 1930:805). A plan for such a magazine, titled "Magazine Plan, Elevation and Sections", Yards and Docks Drawing No. 104260, was located on file at Yorktown Naval Weapons Center. This plan, dated July 15, 1927, shows that N. M. Smith was the Project Manager. Smith was Commander N. M. Smith, Civil Engineer Corps, Bureau of Yards and Docks, U.S.N., a member of the Ammunition Storage Condition Board discussed above. The designer is noted simply by his initials, "J. M.", but a companion sheet with an analysis of stresses shows the full name of the designer, Mr. J. M. Michaelson.

Michaelson's inspiration can only be guessed but as quickly as the igloo was created, its design was modified to suit differing needs and budgetary concerns. The igloos' diffusion was guaranteed as it was preferred by the Joint Army-Navy Ammunition Storage Board and the Ordnance Safety Board for all types of ammunition storage except small arms. Thomson and Mayo (1991:368) report that the Ordnance Department required in January 1941 that igloos be used in all future depot construction. However, with the construction of large depots looming, reducing construction costs and reducing the quantity of steel used in the construction became an issue. Redesign of the igloo was undertaken to force this reduction in money and materials. Colonel Casey, construction officer in charge of directing redesign projects, consulted with Dr. Karl B. McEachron, head of General Electric's high voltage laboratory, about the system of lightning protection the igloo featured. In the end, Casey adopted an idea proposed by Colonel Dunstan which eliminated the tie beams by reinforcing the concrete slab floor to take the thrust of the arch. Fort McClellan's examples show a further abbreviation of Michaelson's design that used materials such as Armco's Multi-Plates to expediently and efficiently create safe storage conditions.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section Number 9 Page 10

Fort McClellan Ammunition Storage District  
Calhoun County, AL

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9. Bibliography

This nomination form is based on two studies of Fort McClellan's ammunition storage buildings. The first titled *Ammunition Storage Early-Twentieth Century Design and Context, Fort McClellan, Alabama* was prepared by New South Associates for Mobile Corps of Engineers, 1995. This volume contains the results of the inventory of the post's ammunition storage building conducted in 1993 and the results of a HABS Level I documentation conducted for five of the magazines in 1994. The second is an interim report titled *An Inventory of Seventeen Buildings* also prepared by New South for Mobile Corps of Engineers in 1994.

*Ammunition Storage Conditions*

- 1928 Letter from the Joint Board Composed of Officers of the Army and Navy to Survey Ammunition Storage Conditions Pursuant to the Act Approved December 22, 1927. 70th Congress, 1st Session, House Of Representatives, Document No. 199.

Bureau of Yards and Docks, U.S.N.

- 1927 Magazine, Navy Mine Depot, Yorktown, Virginia. Nos. 104260, 104261, 104714. On file at Yorktown Naval Weapons Center, Yorktown.

Cotter, C. H.

- 1930 "Naval Ammunition Depot Near Hawthorne, Nev., Built To Serve the Pacific Coast", *Engineering News Record*. Volume 105, No. 21, pp. 802-805.

*Engineering News Record*

- 1926 "The Hazard of Explosives", Volume 97, No. 4, pp.125-126.  
1928 "Naval Construction Activities", Volume 101, No. 3, pp.112-113.  
1941 "Igloos for Munitions Storage", Volume 127, pp. 4-5.

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- 1989 *The Corps of Engineers: Construction in the United States*. In the United States Army in World War II. The Technical Services. Center of Military History, U.S. Army, Washington, DC.

Lane, Major Mary C., WAC

- 1955 *The History of Fort McClellan*. Unofficial manuscript. On deposit at Anniston Public Library, Anniston.

Palmer, 1st. Lieutenant John Mumford

- 1918/ *The Issue of Ordnance Material and 1919b the Field Depots Supply*  
1919a *Division Ordnance Dept. History with 10 Exhibits*. National Archives, Record Group 156, Entry No. 619, Box No. 1, Military Reference, Suitland, MD.  
  
1918 *The 120th Ordnance Depot Company, Camp McClellan, Alabama in The Issue of*  
1919b *Ordnance Materiel and the Field Depots Supply Division Ordnance Dept. History with*



**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section Number 9.10 Page 11

**Fort McClellan Ammunition Storage District  
Calhoun County, AL**

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*10 Exhibits. Exhibit No. 10A, Book 3. National Archives, Record Group 156, Entry No. 619, Box No. 1, Military Reference, Suitland, MD.*

Reed, Mary Beth, William R. Henry, Jr., and J. W. Joseph  
1993 *The Military Showplace of the South. Fort McClellan, Alabama, A Historic Building Inventory.* Report prepared for the Mobile Corps of Engineers.

**Real Property Records**

On file at Fort McClellan's Real Property Office, Fort McClellan, AL.

Thomson, Harry C. and Lida Mayo

1991 *The Ordnance Department: Procurement and Supply. In The United States Army in World War II The Technical Services.* Center of Military History, Washington DC.

**10. Verbal Boundary Description**

Boundaries are indicated on the attached map (Map 2).

**Verbal Boundary Justification**

The boundaries follow the present fence line surrounding the ammunition storage area. This is consistent with the historic boundaries as well as the natural tree line and geographic contours.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section Number \_\_\_\_\_ Page 12

**Fort McClellan Ammunition Storage District  
Calhoun County, AL**

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**Maps**

- Map 1. Fort McClellan Ammunition Storage Historic District showing location of UTM references.  
Source: U.S.G.S. Quadrangle: Anniston, Ala. 1956 (PR 1972).
- Map 2. Fort McClellan Ammunition Storage Historic District Boundaries.  
Source: U.S. Army, Fort McClellan, Alabama.
- Map 3. Fort McClellan Ammunition Storage Historic District showing location and direction of photographs.  
Source: U.S. Army, Fort McClellan, Alabama.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section Number \_\_\_\_\_ Page 13

**Fort McClellan Ammunition Storage District  
Calhoun County, AL**

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**Photographs**

The following applies to all photographs:

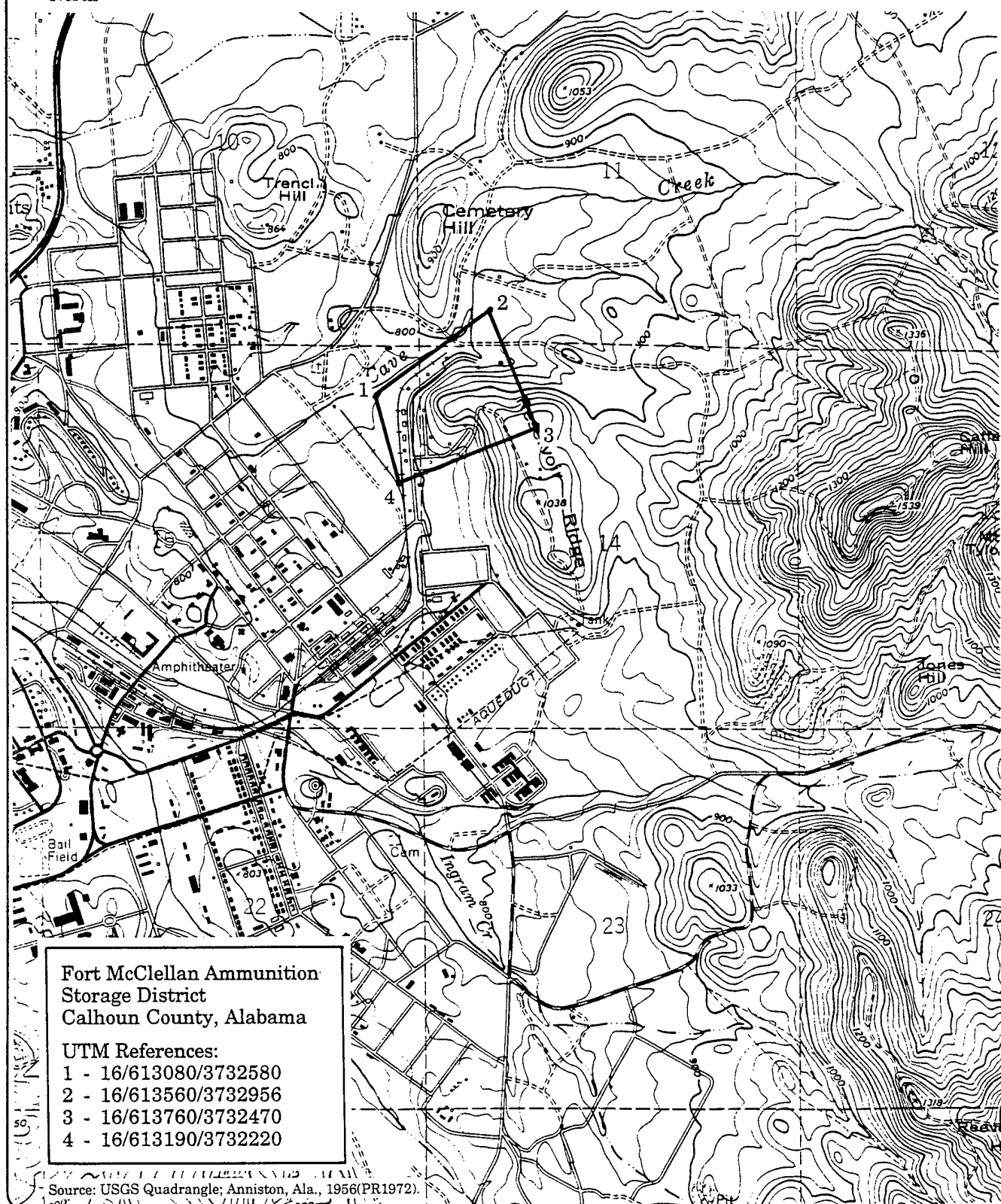
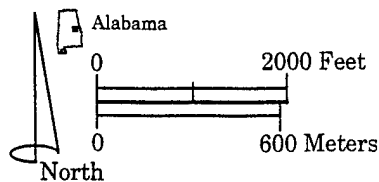
Name of Property:	Fort McClellan Ammunition Storage District
County and State:	Calhoun County, Alabama
Photographer:	Richard T. Bryant
Negatives Filed:	Mobile District Corps of Engineers
Date Photographed:	April, 1994

**Description and Vantage Point of Photographs:**

- |           |   |
|-----------|---|
| Photo 1.  | Pre World War II magazines. View looking to northeast.          |
| Photo 2.  | Igloos (Buildings 4408, 4409, and 4410). View to the northeast. |
| Photo 3.  | Building 4401. View to the northeast.                           |
| Photo 4.  | Building 4402. View to the east.                                |
| Photo 5.  | Building 4405. View to the southeast.                           |
| Photo 6.  | Building 4406. View to the northwest.                           |
| Photo 7.  | Building 4408. View to the northwest.                           |
| Photo 8.  | Building 4408. View to the southwest.                           |
| Photo 9.  | Building 4409. View to the northeast.                           |
| Photo 10. | Building 4414. View to the northeast.                           |

# Map 1

## Location of UTM References



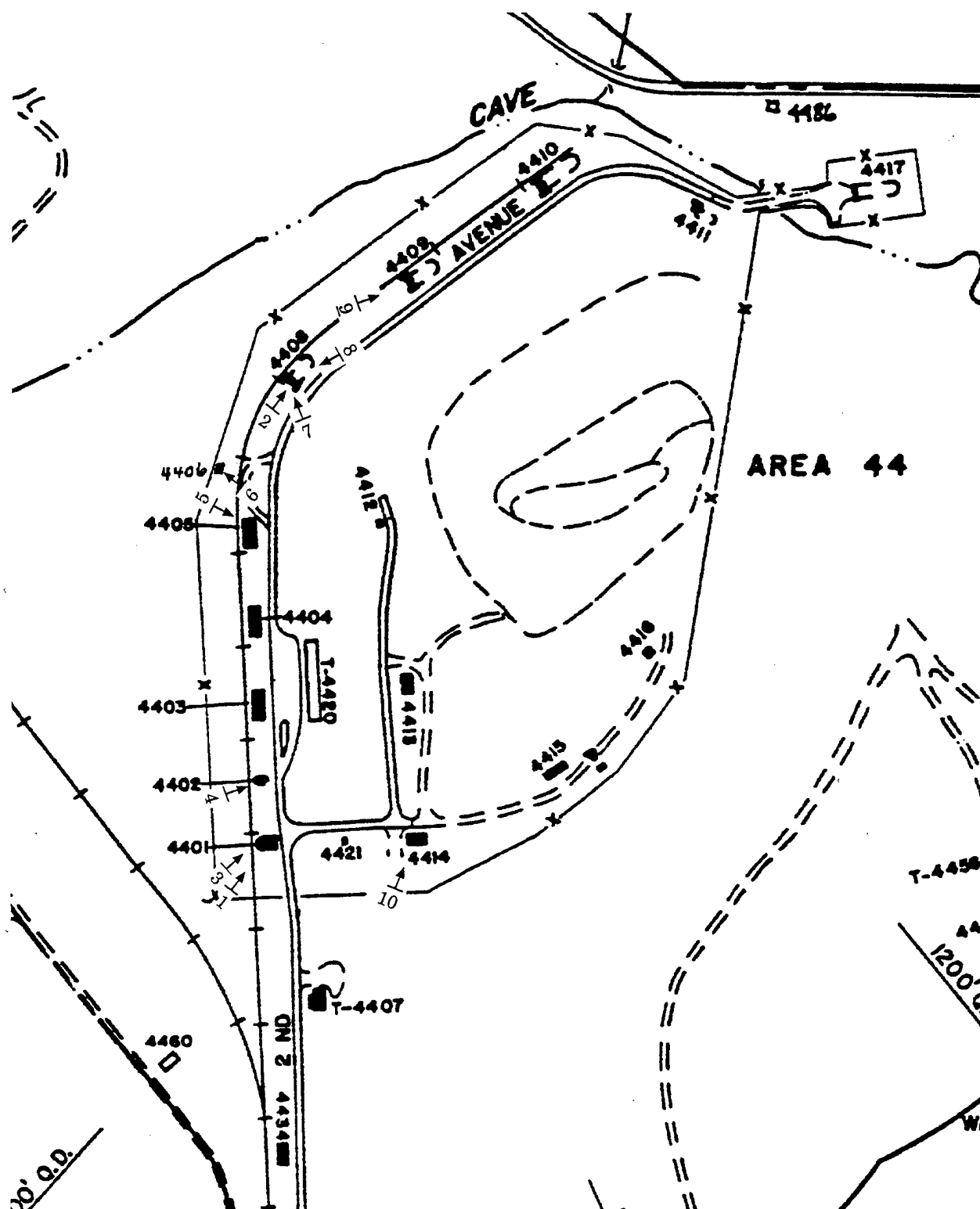


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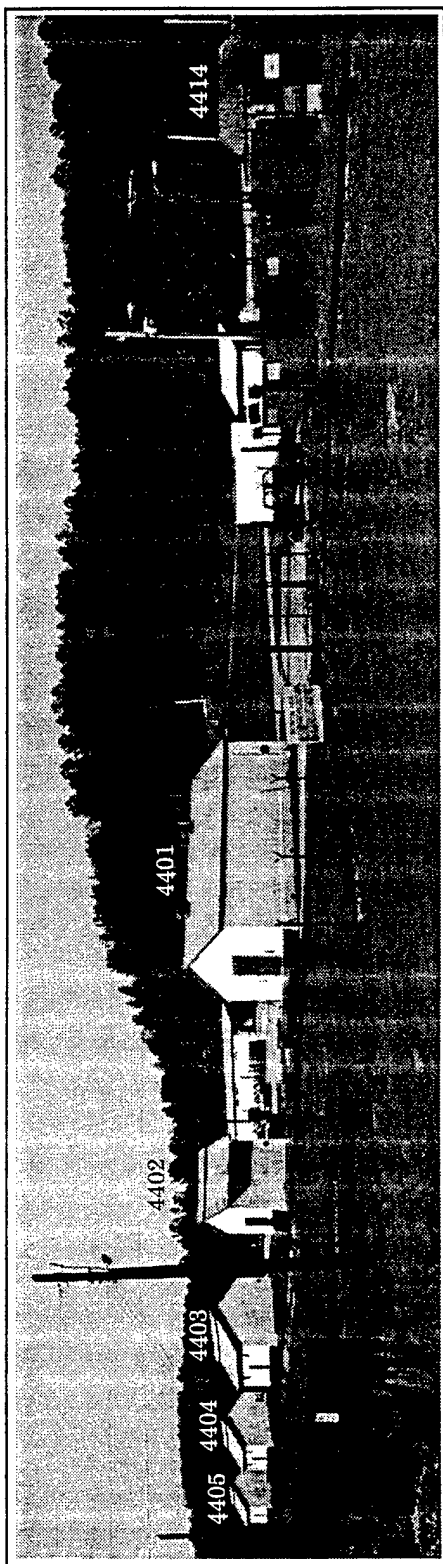
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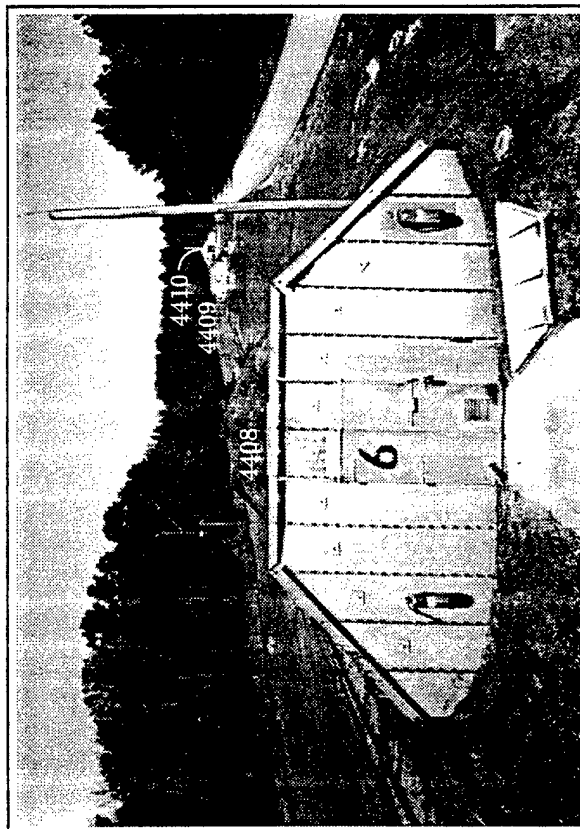
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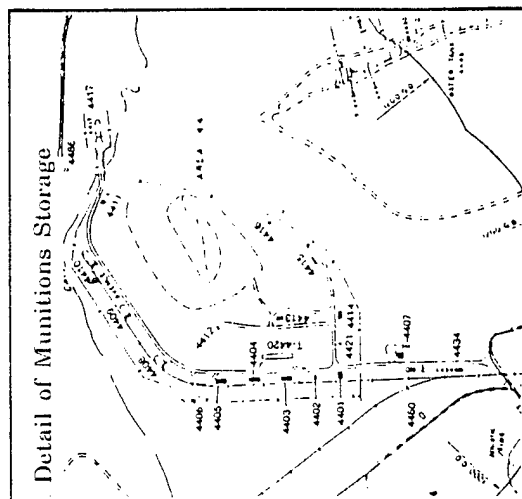
Source: U.S. Army, Fort McClellan.

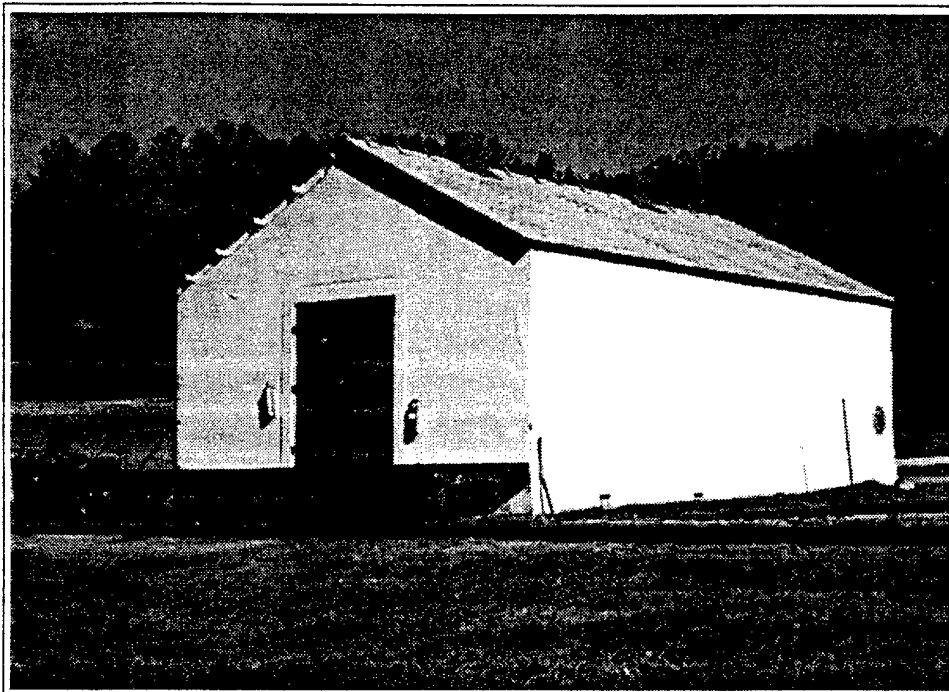


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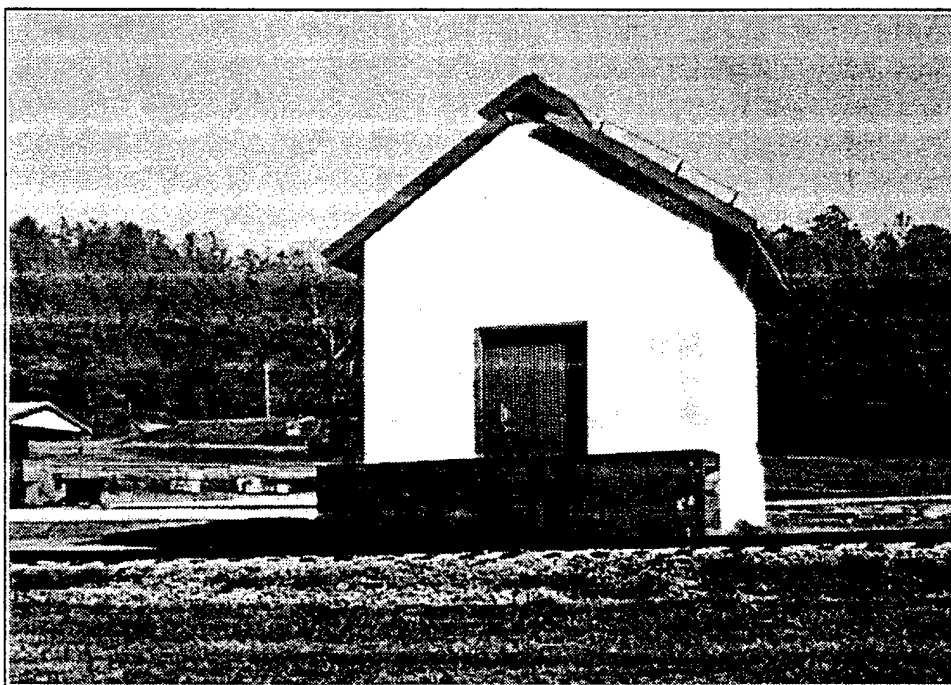


Photograph 2



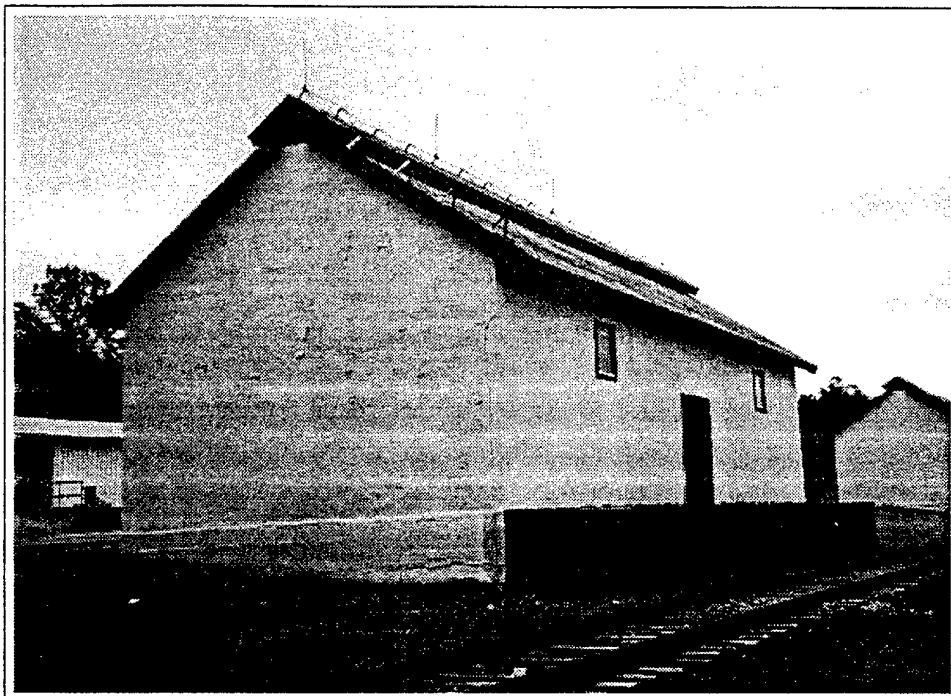


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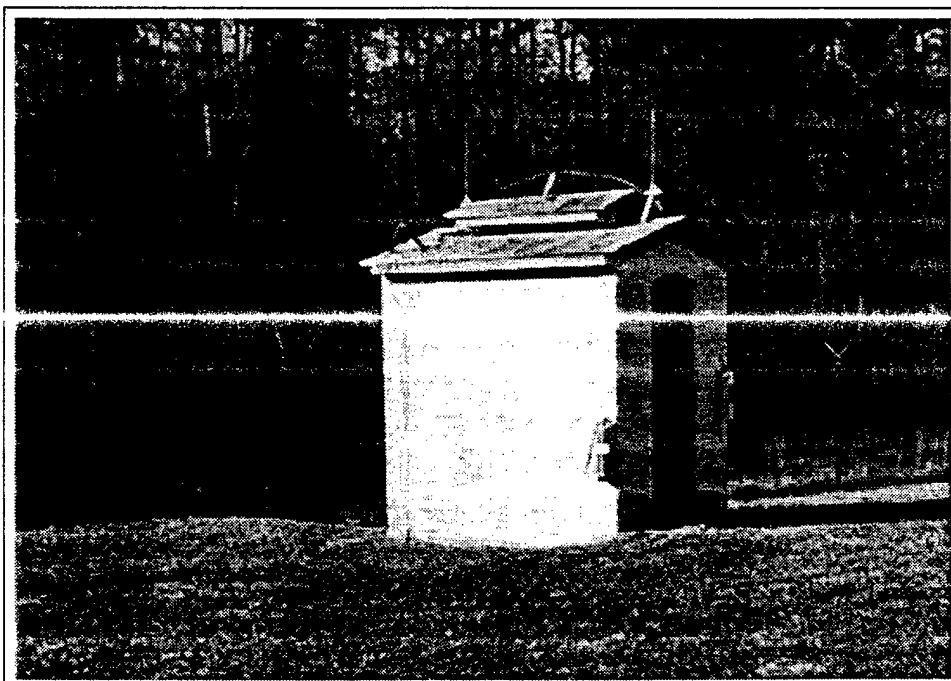


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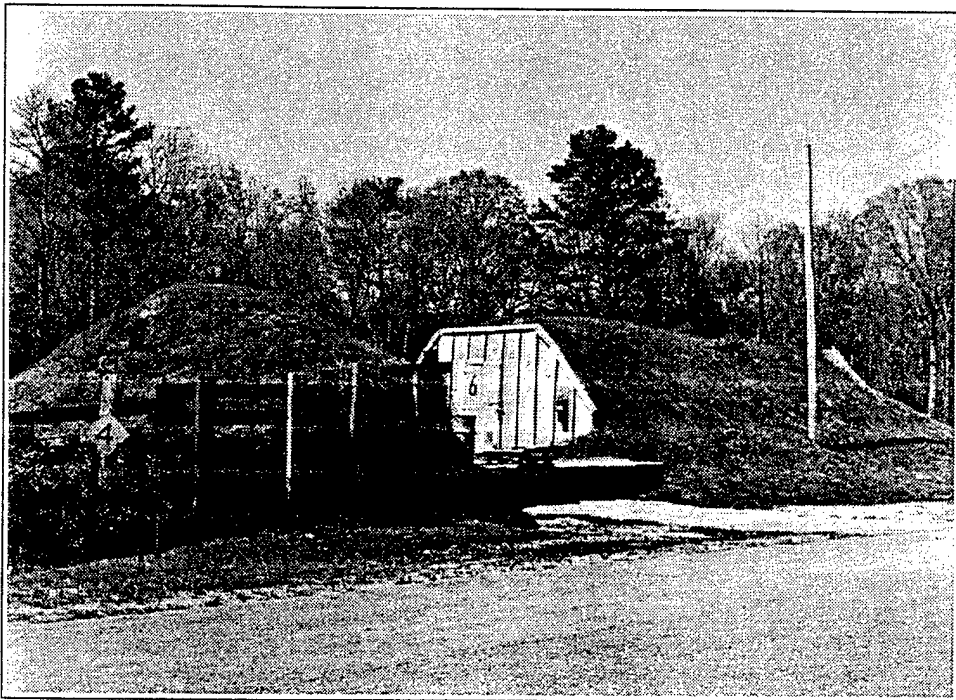




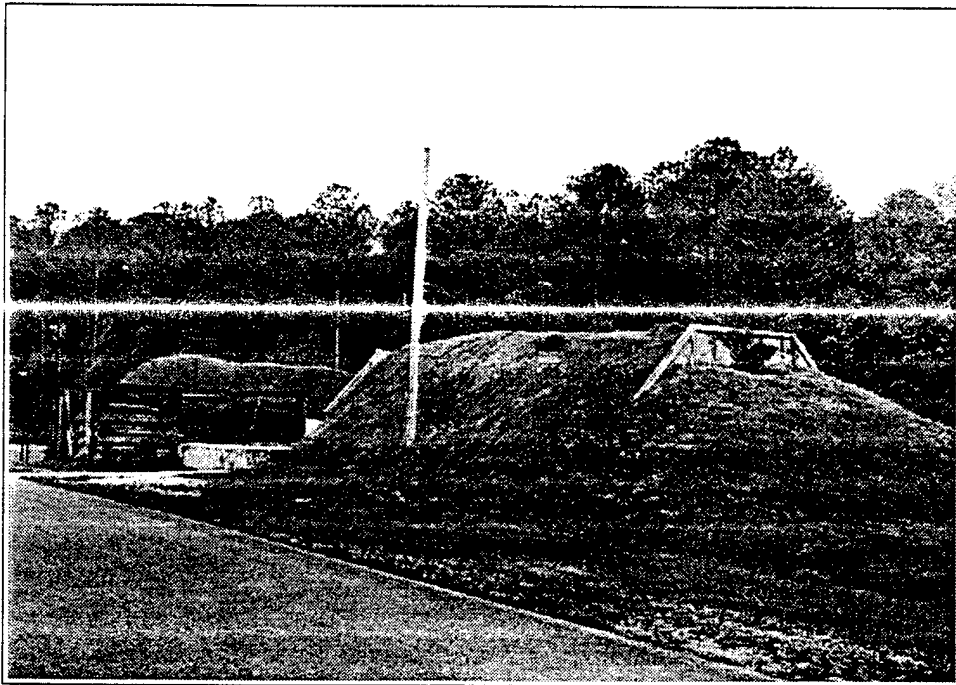
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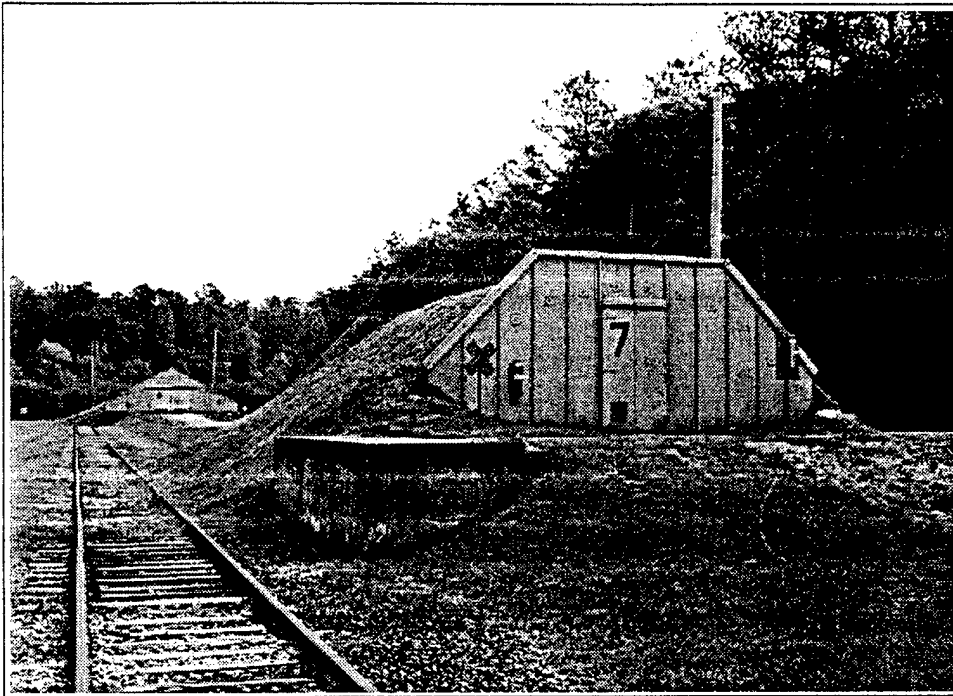
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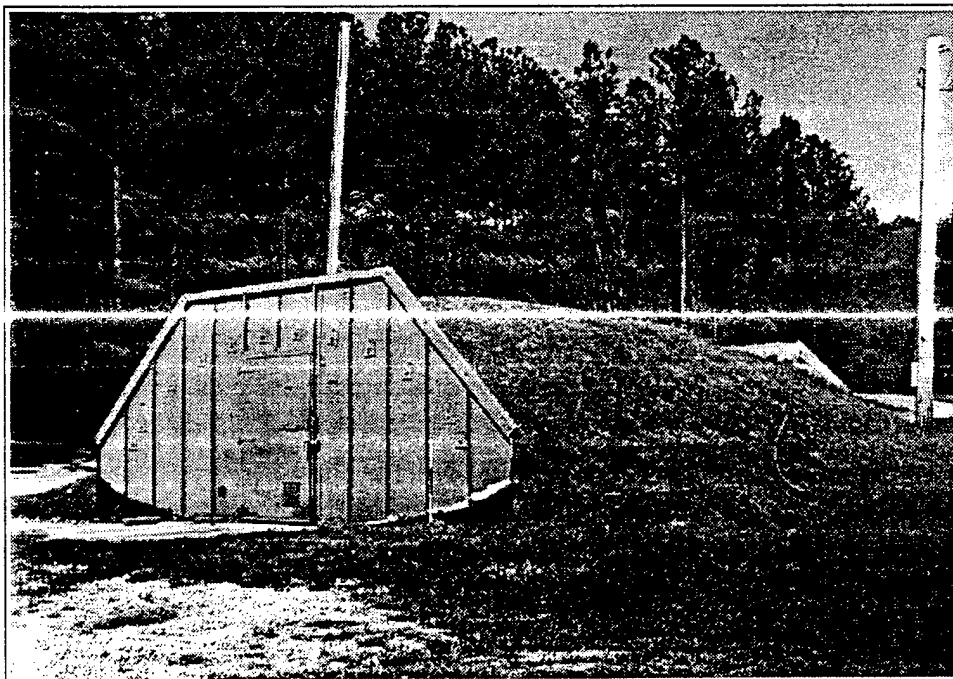
Photograph 7



Photograph 8



Photograph 9



Photograph 10

## Appendix D

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**Review letter from  
the Alabama Historical Commission**



STATE OF ALABAMA  
ALABAMA HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
468 SOUTH PERRY STREET  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36130-0900

LEE H. WARNER  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

TEL: 334-242-3184  
FAX: 334-240-3477

December 22, 1999

Hugh M. McClellan  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Mobile District  
P.O. Box 2288  
Mobile, Alabama 36628

Re: AHC 00-0309  
Cold War Context Study  
Fort McClellan  
Calhoun County, Alabama

Dear Mr. McClellan:

Upon review of the Cold War Study conducted by New South Associates, the Alabama Historical Commission would like to congratulate you on an excellent report. Furthermore, we concur with the determinations of eligibility contained in this report.

1. Eight World War II era permanent buildings that are not eligible are: 270, 1031, 1122, 1919, 1920, 2020, 2090, & 2091.
2. Fourteen bridges that are not eligible are: 4302, 4303, 4305, 4306, 4314, 4318, 4319, 4331, 4352, 4363, 4702, 4703, 4705, & 4706.
3. One bridge eligible under Criterion C as a contributing element in the Industrial district is: 4342.
4. The World War II German-Italian POW cemetery, 3430, is eligible under Criterion A.
5. A district eligible under Criterion A in the Cold War context is the CDTF facility, buildings 4479, 4482, 4483, & 4484.
6. A hot cell building, 3192, is not eligible for exceptional Cold War context.

We would like to request more information on one group of buildings, the Women's Army Corps Center and School. The report states that these buildings appear to meet National Register Criterion A, although they are not exceptionally significant under the Army's Cold War Context. We question whether they could be considered exceptionally significant for women's history. If these buildings retain their integrity, they may be considered exceptionally significant under Criterion A for their role in women's involvement in the Army.

We appreciate your efforts and we look forward to receiving your response at your earliest convenience. Should you have any questions or comments, please contact Blythe Semmer at this office and include the AHC tracking number referenced above.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Lee H. Warner", written in a cursive style.

Lee H. Warner  
State Historic Preservation Officer

LW/JBS/GCR